

FULL  
68 PAGES

AMAZING STORIES



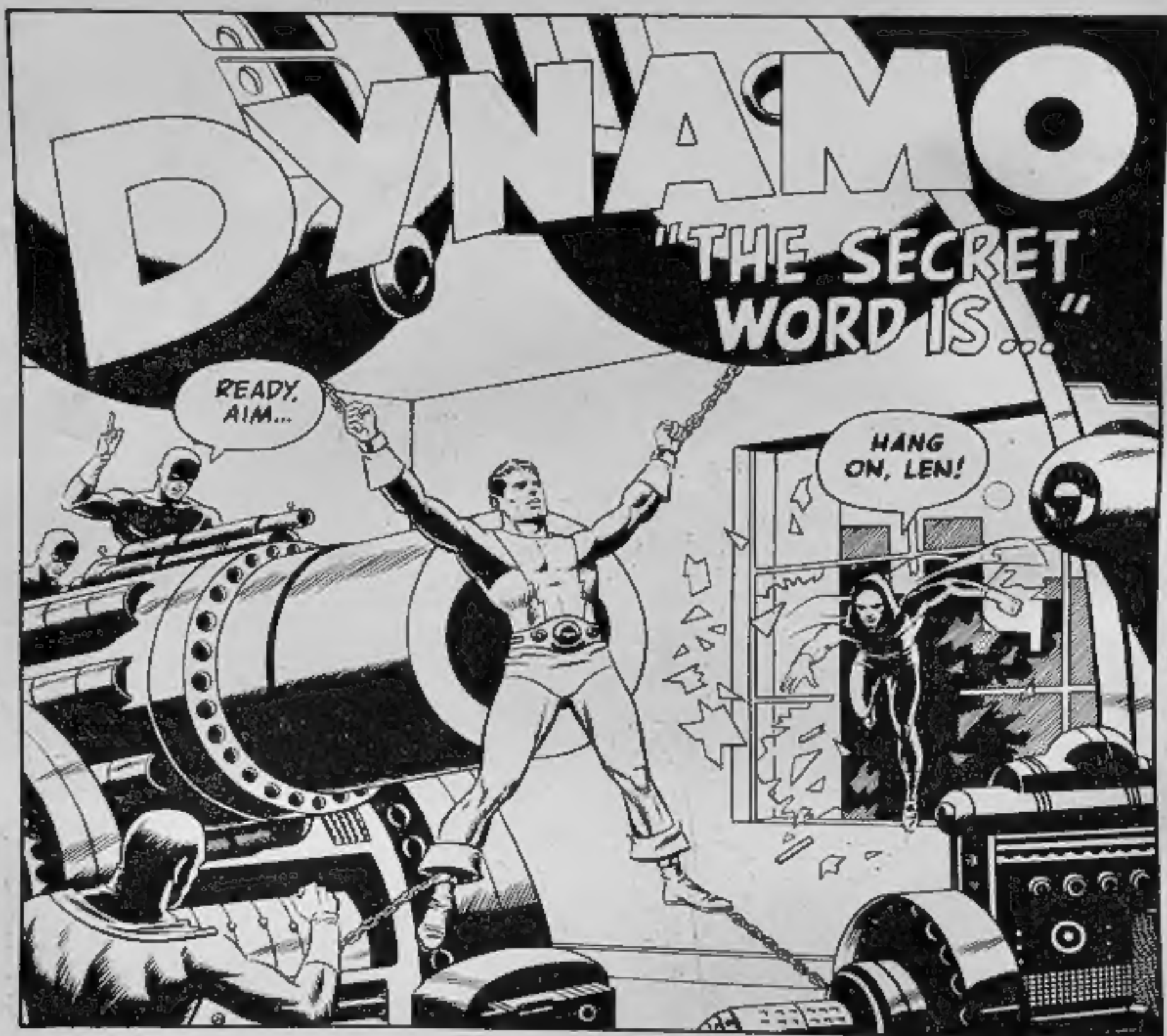
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68

# Sinister TALES

14







LATER, AT THUNDER HQ...



AND SOON...





THE NEXT DAY...



THE DAY PASSES IN AN AGONY OF WAITING...



LATER, AT AN ABANDONED WATERFRONT WAREHOUSE..







WHILE, AT SPIDER CENTRAL,  
MILES AWAY...



A FEW SHORT HOURS LATER...







MEANWHILE, BACK AT THUNDER HQ..





AND SO, MINUTES LATER...

I'VE GOT A FEELING  
I'LL GET KILLED AT  
LEAST ONCE TONIGHT..  
I'LL HOLD THE CLOAK  
IN RESERVE FOR  
A WHILE...

THAT MUST BE THE  
PLACE! ...I'LL TRY IT  
IN DISGUISE FIRST...



HOLD  
IT!  
WHO'S  
THERE?

IT'S THE  
EXTER-  
MINATOR!  
I HEAR YOU  
GOT A LOT  
OF RATS IN  
HERE!



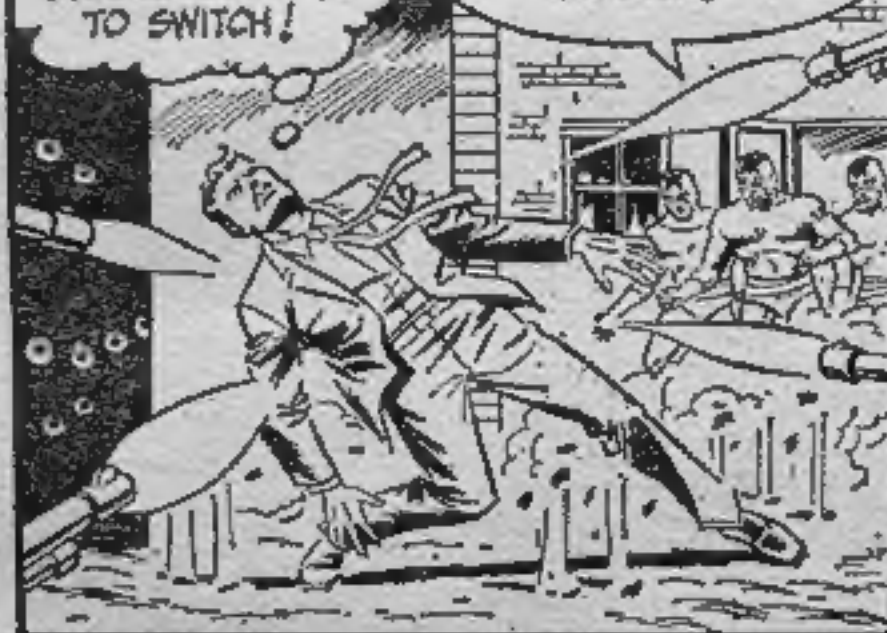
HERE'S MY  
CALLING CARD!

BLAST  
HIM!



WOW! THEY'VE  
GOT EVERY INCH  
OF THIS PLACE  
ZEROED IN! GOT  
TO SWITCH!

DON'T JUST STAND  
THERE... DRAG HIM IN  
BEFORE SOMEONE GETS  
CURIOUS!



WAIT FOR  
ME, FELLAS!

NICE OF YOU TO LET  
ME IN... I MUST BE GET-  
TING THE REPUTATION  
OF A PARTY-CRASHER  
IN SOME CIRCLES!



AND THERE  
HE IS...

OOPS!

WHAT  
WAS THAT?  
WHO'S  
THERE?

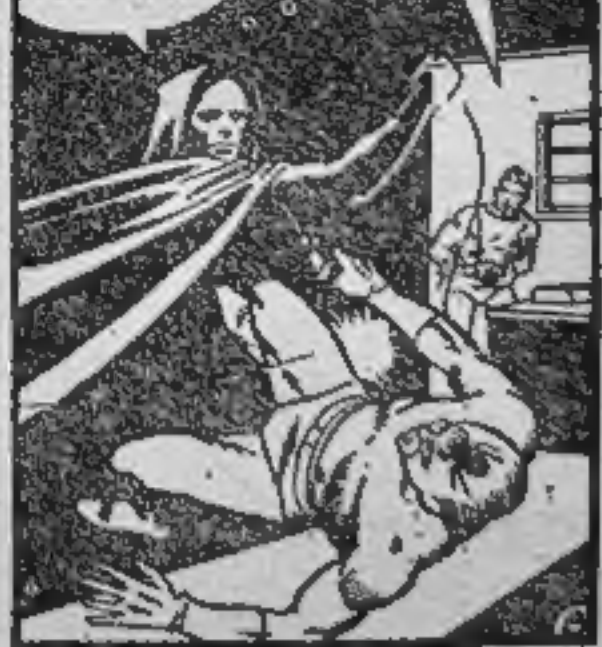


I MUST BE  
HEARING THINGS!  
THERE'S NOBODY...



NOT  
NOBODY,  
PAL!  
NO MAN!

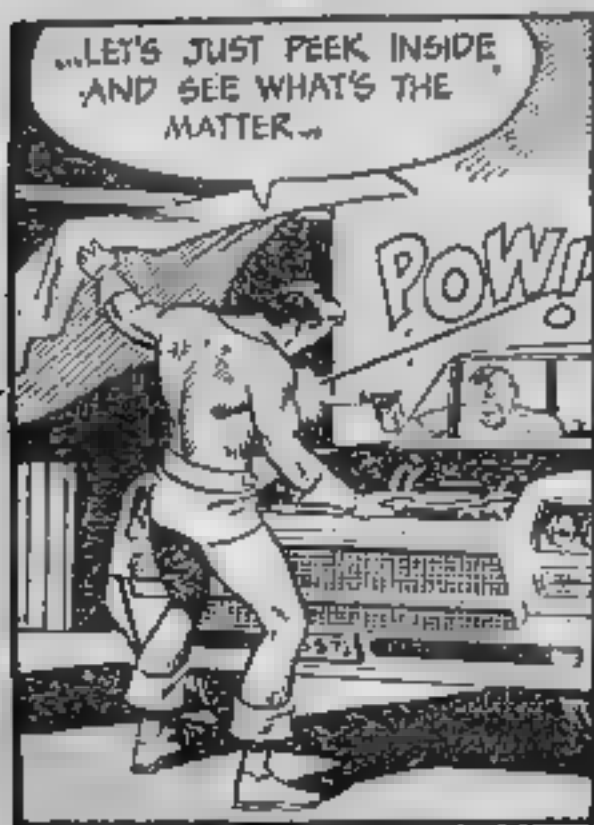
WHO - WHAT'S  
GOING ON  
OUT THERE?











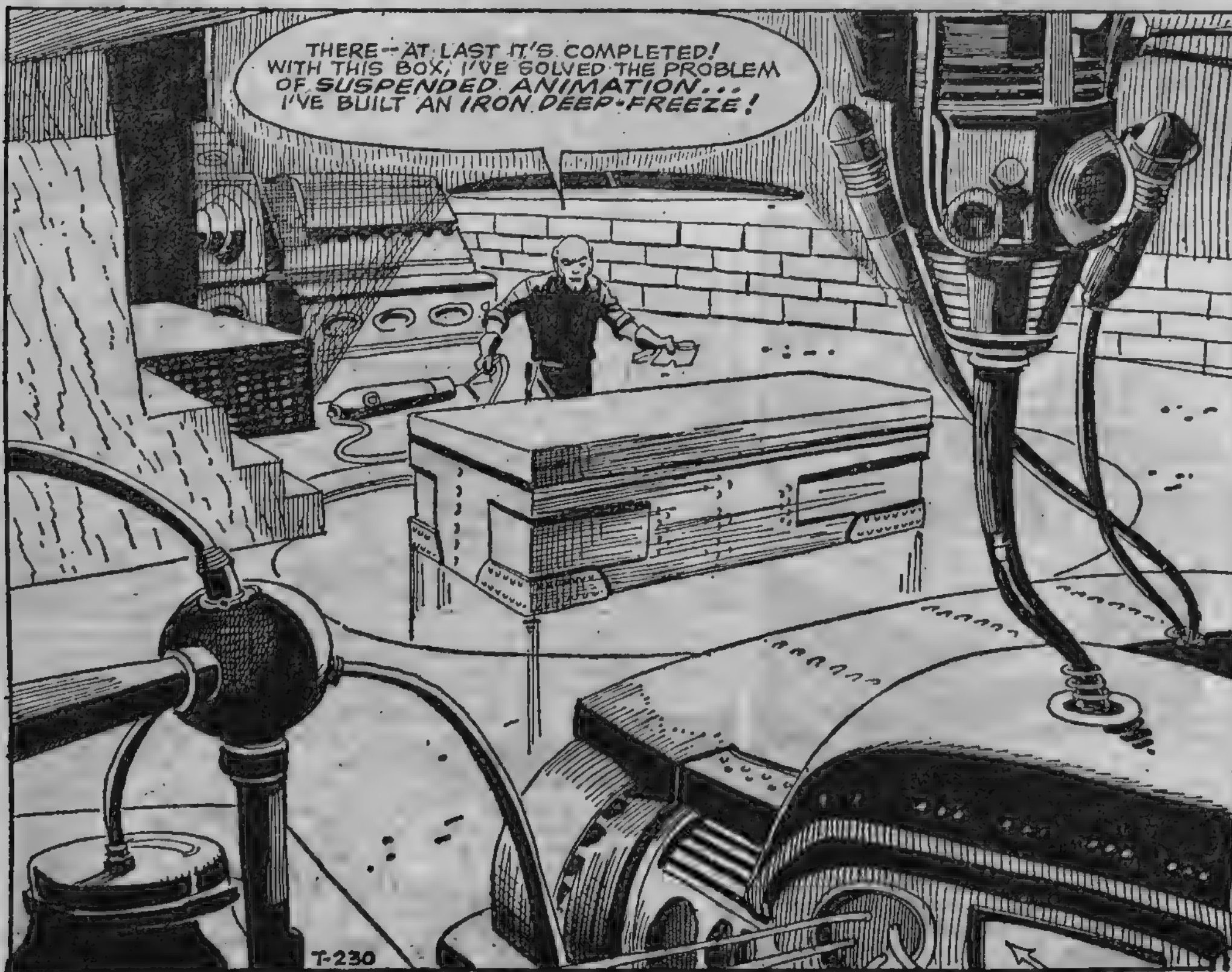
LATER ...





HIS NAME WAS PHINEAS STOKES AND HE WAS THE GREATEST SCIENTIST ON EARTH! THERE WAS NO PROBLEM WHICH, ONCE HE PUT HIS MIND TO IT, HE COULDN'T SOLVE! AND THEN, DRIVEN BY FEAR AND SELFISHNESS, HE ONE DAY PERFORMED HIS MOST FANTASTIC SCIENTIFIC FEAT... HE BECAME...

# THE MAN IN THE IRON BOX!





EACH NIGHT BEFORE RETIRING, PHINEAS LISTENED TO THE WORLD NEWS REPORT...

...AND IT IS RUMORED IN WASHINGTON THAT THESE LATEST WORLD EVENTS HAVE BROUGHT US CLOSER TO AN ALL OUT WAR THAN WE'VE BEEN FOR THE PAST 15 YEARS!

HAH!! THAT'S NO LONGER ANY CONCERN OF PHINEAS STOKES!

AS SOON AS WAR IS DECLARED, I'LL GET IN MY IRON BOX-- AND SLEEP FOR A MILLION YEARS--UNTIL THE TIME WHEN IT'S AGAIN SAFE TO WALK THE FACE OF THIS PLANET! AND IN THE MEANTIME I WON'T CARE WHAT HAPPENS TO ANYONE IN THIS WORLD!

AFTER RETIRING, PHINEAS DREAMT OF THE HORRIBLE WAR THAT HIS INGENUITY MIGHT ALLOW HIM TO ESCAPE...

WHERE DO YOU THINK PHINEAS STOKES IS??

I DON'T KNOW! BUT HE MUST'VE INVENTED SOME MEANS OF AVOIDING THIS WAR! I WISH I HAD BEEN THAT SMART... BUT NOBODY'S AS SMART AS PHINEAS STOKES!

ONE DAY SOON AFTER PHINEAS HAD FINISHED BUILDING HIS DEEP FREEZE, HE WAS VISITED BY TWO OFFICIALS FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT!

WE'VE COME FROM WASHINGTON TO SEE YOU, MR. STOKES...

IT'S A MATTER OF THE UTMOST URGENCY!

WELL-- ER-- PLEASE COME IN, GENTLEMEN!

THE GOVERNMENT MEN AT ONCE EXPLAINED TO PHINEAS THE DIRE CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH HAD OCCASIONED THEIR VISIT...

...AND THAT'S THE STORY, MR. STOKES! WE FEEL THAT A SNEAK ATTACK ON OUR NATION MIGHT COME AT ANY TIME-- THAT SOON WE'LL BE ENGAGED A WORLD WAR!

THAT'S WHY WE'VE COME TO SEE YOU, SIR...WE NEED YOUR HELP!

THERE ARE VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS WHICH MUST BE MADE IN OUR DEFENSIVE WEAPONS IMMEDIATELY! FOR THIS WE'RE SEEKING THE AID OF THE MOST QUALIFIED SCIENTISTS IN THE COUNTRY!

SINCE YOU'RE CONSIDERED THE GREATEST ON EARTH, WE'VE COME TO YOU FIRST! YOU WILL HELP YOUR COUNTRY--AND THE WHOLE FREEDOM-LOVING WORLD, WON'T YOU, MR. STOKES?

I'M AFRAID NOT, GENTLEMEN!



DON'T LOOK SO SHOCKED -- IT'S REALLY VERY SIMPLE! IF I HAVE ANY FEELING FOR MY COUNTRY OR HUMANITY--IT IS VASTLY OVERSHADOWED BY MY DESIRE FOR PERSONAL SURVIVAL! IN SHORT--I REALLY DON'T CARE WHAT HAPPENS TO ANYONE IN THE WORLD, EXCEPT MYSELF!



WELL, YOU'VE MADE YOURSELF QUITE CLEAR, MR. STOKES! I ONLY HOPE WE DON'T RUN INTO ANY OTHER PEOPLE WHO ARE AS SELFISH AND DISLOYAL TO THEIR COUNTRY AS YOU! GOOD DAY, SIR!



AS SOON AS THE OFFICIALS LEFT, STOKES HURRIED DOWN TO HIS CELLAR AND WENT THRU A SECRET DOOR INTO A CAVE OF THE MOUNTAIN ON WHICH HIS HOUSE WAS BUILT...

IF THERE'S A POSSIBILITY OF A SNEAK ATTACK, I CAN'T WAIT TILL WAR IS FORMALLY DECLARED... I'D BETTER GET INTO MY DEEP-FREEZE NOW!



WHILE THE EARTH IS BEING PLAGUED BY WAR -- AND LATER BY RADIOACTIVITY -- I'LL BE SAFE IN A STATE OF SUSPENDED ANIMATION! THEN A MILLION YEARS FROM NOW -- WHEN THE RADIOACTIVITY HAS DISSIPATED ITSELF, I'LL WAKE UP AND LIVE OUT THE REST OF MY LIFE!



BUT FATE, IN HER INSCRUTABLE WISDOM, HAD DESIGNS OTHER THAN WAR FOR THIS WORLD... THE PROPOSED SNEAK ATTACK NEVER CAME... INSTEAD, THE POLITICAL CLIMATE OF THE WORLD UNDERWENT A CHANGE -- THERE WAS NEW TRUST, RESPECT, AND UNDERSTANDING! THE WORLD WAS COMING OF AGE!

DREAMING OF THE IDYLIC WORLD INTO WHICH HE WOULD AWAKEN A MILLION YEARS HENCE, PHINEAS STOKES WENT TO SLEEP... A DEEPER, LONGER SLEEP THAN ANYONE HAD EVER KNOWN...



WE WILL END OUR COLD WAR IMMEDIATELY! WE MUST BE FRIENDS FROM NOW ON!

AGREEP!





WHILE PHINEAS STOKES SLEPT, YEARS PASSED... DURING WHICH MANKIND MADE ENORMOUS SCIENTIFIC PROGRESS...



WHAT A WONDERFUL IMPROVEMENT THIS SOLAR ENERGY IS OVER ALL PREVIOUS FORMS!

YES--IT'S A CHEAPER, MORE EFFICIENT AND IN-EXHAUSTIBLE SOURCE OF POWER!

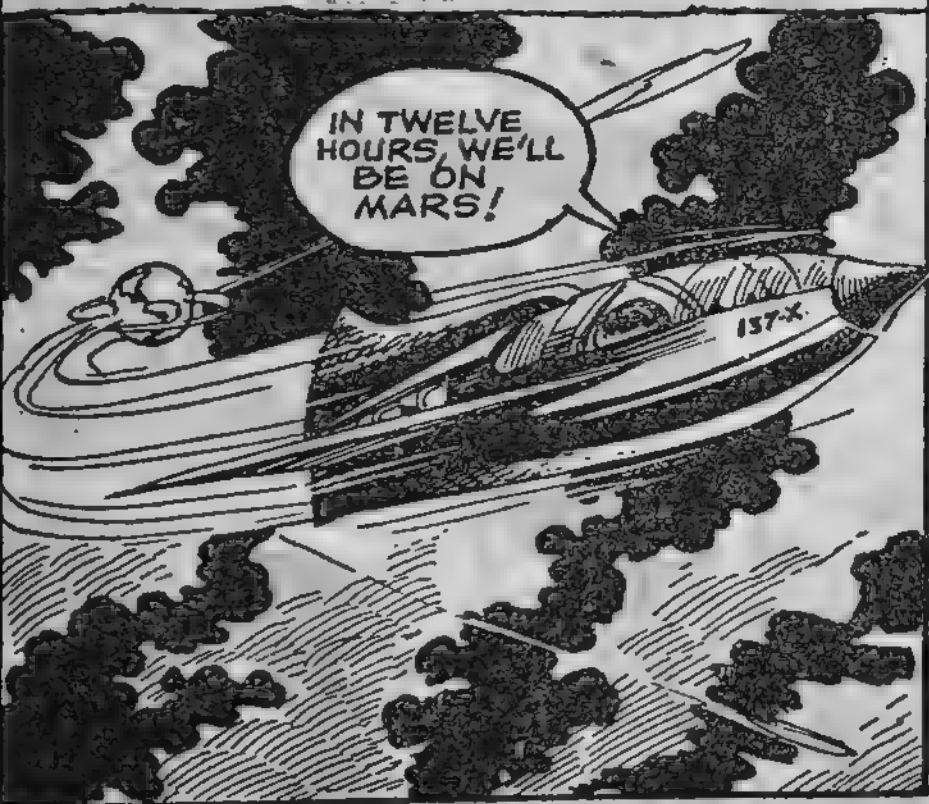
THAT PATIENT WILL SOON BE WELL-- THANKS TO THIS NEW MAGNETO-CHEMICAL RAY MACHINE!

WE CAN NOW CURE ALMOST ANY DISEASE!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT THOSE GOVERNMENT MEN SPRAY ON MY CROPS, BUT I NEVER KNEW ANYTHING COULD GROW SO BIG--AND SO QUICKLY!

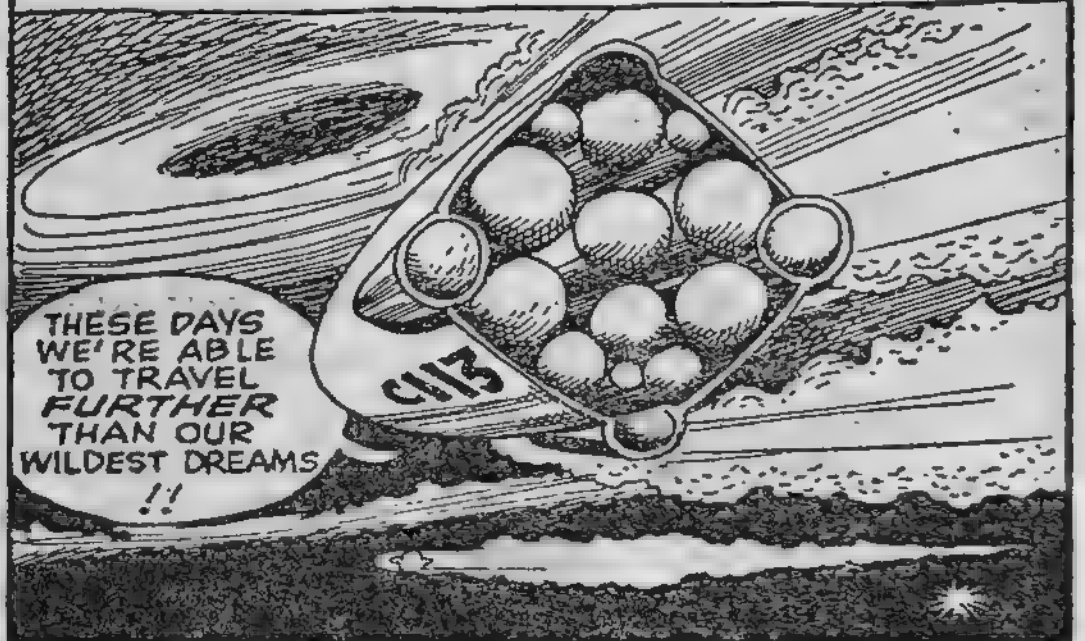
THIS IS THE WAY IT IS ALL OVER THE WORLD-- NO ONE GOES HUNGRY ANY MORE!

AND THE MOST SPECTACULAR STRIDES WERE MADE IN SPACE TRAVEL! FIRST CAME THE MANNED SPACESHIPS-- CAPABLE OF REACHING THE OTHER PLANETS OF EARTH'S SOLAR SYSTEM...



IN TWELVE HOURS, WE'LL BE ON MARS!

THEN, MAN BUILT INTERSTELLAR SPACESHIPS-- SHIPS TO TAKE HIM NOT ONLY OUT OF HIS SOLAR SYSTEM, BUT OUT OF HIS STAR SYSTEM-- OUT TO THE REMOTE EXTERNAL GALAXIES...



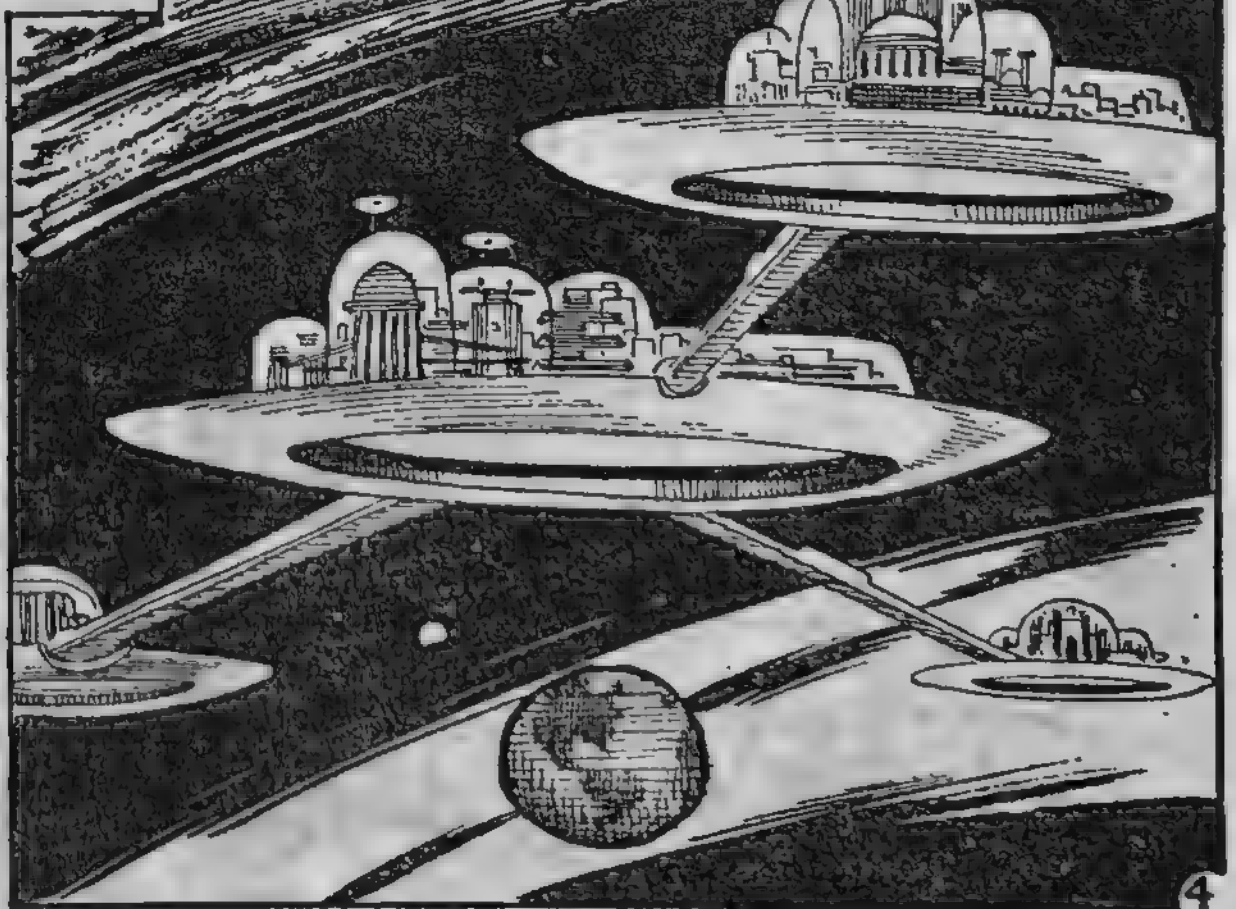
THESE DAYS WE'RE ABLE TO TRAVEL FURTHER THAN OUR WILDEST DREAMS !!

MORE YEARS PASSED, DURING WHICH EARTH BECAME ALMOST DEVOID OF PEOPLE... IT BECAME A LONELY, FORGOTTEN WORLD...

PEOPLE WERE LURED BY THE DISCOVERY OF NEW AND WONDERFULLY SUITABLE PLANETS IN REMOTE PARTS OF THE UNIVERSE, AND THE EARTH'S POPULATION GRADUALLY DIMINISHED AS THOUSANDS LEFT TO SETTLE ON THOSE DISTANT, SPINNING WORLDS...

EARTH HAS SERVED US WELL!

YES! BUT NOW THAT WE'VE FOUND VASTER AND BETTER WORLDS TO INHABIT, IT IS RIGHT THAT WE LEAVE!





AND A MILLION YEARS AFTER HE WENT INTO HIS DEEP AND UNNATURAL SLEEP, PHINEAS STOKES BEGAN TO AWAKEN...



I'M AWAKE--AFTER ALL THESE YEARS, I'M AWAKE--AND FEELING SWELL! BOY--IT'S GREAT TO BE ALIVE!



I SURE WAS SMART TO GO INTO SUSPENDED ANIMATION FOR ALL THESE YEARS! NOW I'M AWAKE IN AN AGE THAT MUST BE FILLED WITH WONDERS...THOSE ROCKET SHIPS, FOR INSTANCE...WE MUST NOW HAVE COMMUNICATION WITH OTHER WORLDS!



BUT WHEN HE REACHED THE CITY...

WHY ARE YOU ROUNDING UP THESE PEOPLE? WHO ARE YOU? AND SAY--WHERE IS EVERYBODY, ANYWAY? WHERE ARE ALL THE PEOPLE OF EARTH?

DON'T YOU KNOW, EARTHLING? WHY, FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS YOUR PEOPLE HAVE BEEN LEAVING EARTH--HAVE BEEN GOING TO NEWER AND MORE FERTILE DISTANT WORLDS!



WE ARE FROM A FAR AWAY PLANET THAT IS ALMOST CONSTANTLY ENGAGED IN WARS. WE CAME TO EARTH TO FIND WHATEVER EARTHLINGS HAD REMAINED HERE--AND PUT THEM INTO OUR ARMY--WHERE THEY WILL FIGHT IN OUR BATTLES--ALONGSIDE US!

AND YOU, EARTHLING, WILL BE ONE OF OUR WARRIORS! COME WITH US!



AND SO, A MILLION YEARS AFTER HE WENT INTO HIS DEEP-FREEZE, PHINEAS STOKES MET THE SAME FATE WHICH HE HAD FEARED IN THE PAST--A FATE HE COULD HAVE AVOIDED BY DOING HIS DUTY AND NOT DESERTING HIS NATION--AND HIS ERA!

I WAS A SELFISH FOOL--I HID IN A DEEP SLEEP DURING WONDERFUL AGES OF PROGRESS--ONLY TO AWAKEN AND HAVE TO FACE THE VERY THING I SO FEARED! IF I HAD ONLY KNOWN...MAN CAN'T ESCAPE HIS DESTINY...COWARDICE HAS NEVER BEEN THE ANSWER!

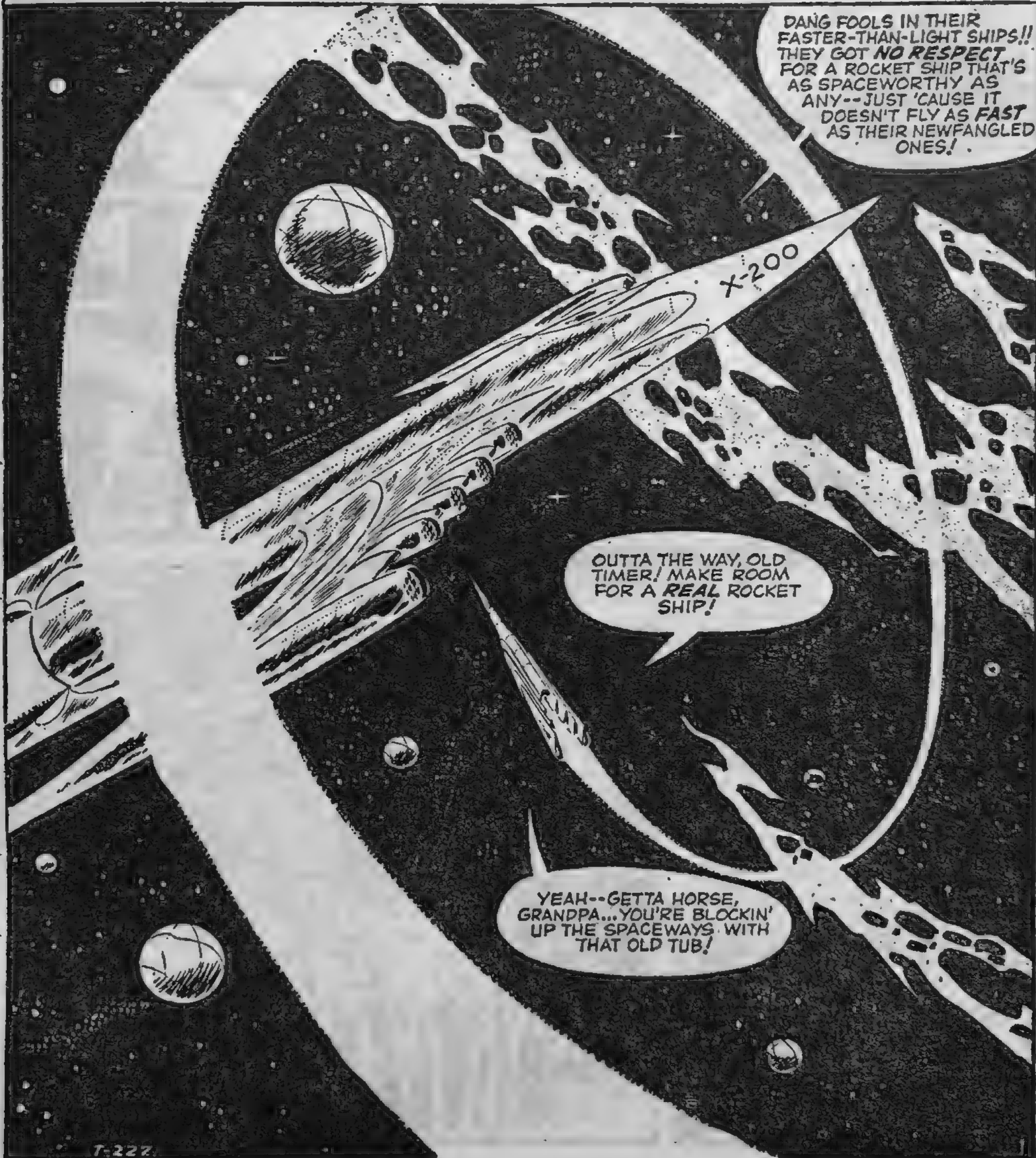


THE END



YES SIR, OLD CHARLIE BREWSTER SURE SHOWED 'EM ALL... WHY, HE WENT AND DID WHAT NO ONE ELSE ON EARTH COULD HAVE DONE... AND NOW THEY'LL NEVER LAUGH AT HIM OR HIS ROCKET SHIP AGAIN--THE SHIP THEY CALL...

# ROCKET SHIP X-200



DANG FOOLS IN THEIR  
FASTER-THAN-LIGHT SHIPS!!  
THEY GOT **NO RESPECT**  
FOR A ROCKET SHIP THAT'S  
AS SPACEWORTHY AS  
ANY--JUST 'CAUSE IT  
DOESN'T FLY AS **FAST**  
AS THEIR NEWFANGLED  
ONES!

OUTTA THE WAY, OLD  
TIMER! MAKE ROOM  
FOR A **REAL** ROCKET  
SHIP!

YEAH--GETTA HORSE,  
GRANDPA... YOU'RE BLOCKIN'  
UP THE SPACEWAYS WITH  
THAT OLD TUB!



THESE DAYS ALL ANYBODY CARES ABOUT IS SPEED! THEY DON'T THINK ABOUT THINGS LIKE *RELIABILITY* ANY MORE! IN THE OLD DAYS IT WAS DIFFERENT... A MAN'S *SKILL* AND THE *STURDINESS* OF HIS SHIP WERE IMPORTANT... BUT I GUESS THOSE DAYS ARE GONE FOREVER!



CHARLIE BREWSTER REACHED EARTH... APPROACHED THE SPACESTRIP... AND, AS USUAL, LANDED EXPERTLY...

WELL... I SEE OLD "SLOWPOKE" IS COMIN' IN!

WHY DOESN'T HE RETIRE?!! A MAN HIS AGE SHOULDN'T BE WORKING IN SPACE TRAVEL!

YEAH... BREWSTER OUGHTTA QUIT... AND GIVE THAT ANTIQUE SHIP OF HIS TO A MUSEUM!



CHARLIE WALKED ACROSS THE SPACESTRIP TOWARD HIS SMALL, AND NOWADAYS UNPROFITABLE, BUSINESS-- THE "BREWSTER TRANSPORTATION SERVICE"...



I FEEL KINDA SORRY FOR OLD BREWSTER... HE HASN'T HAD ANY PASSENGERS OR CARGO TO CARRY FOR SOME TIME!

YEAH... HE MUST JUST BARELY EKE OUT A LIVING FROM HIS BUSINESS!



LATELY, I'VE HAD LESS AND LESS CUSTOMERS FOR MY TRANSPORTATION SERVICES... MAYBE I SHOULD NOT BLAME ANYONE, THOUGH... WHY SHOULD THEY FLY WITH ME AND REACH MARS IN A WEEK, WHEN ONE OF THE NEW SHIPS CAN GET THERE IN THREE HOURS!



THAT NIGHT, CHARLIE BREWSTER COULDN'T SLEEP...

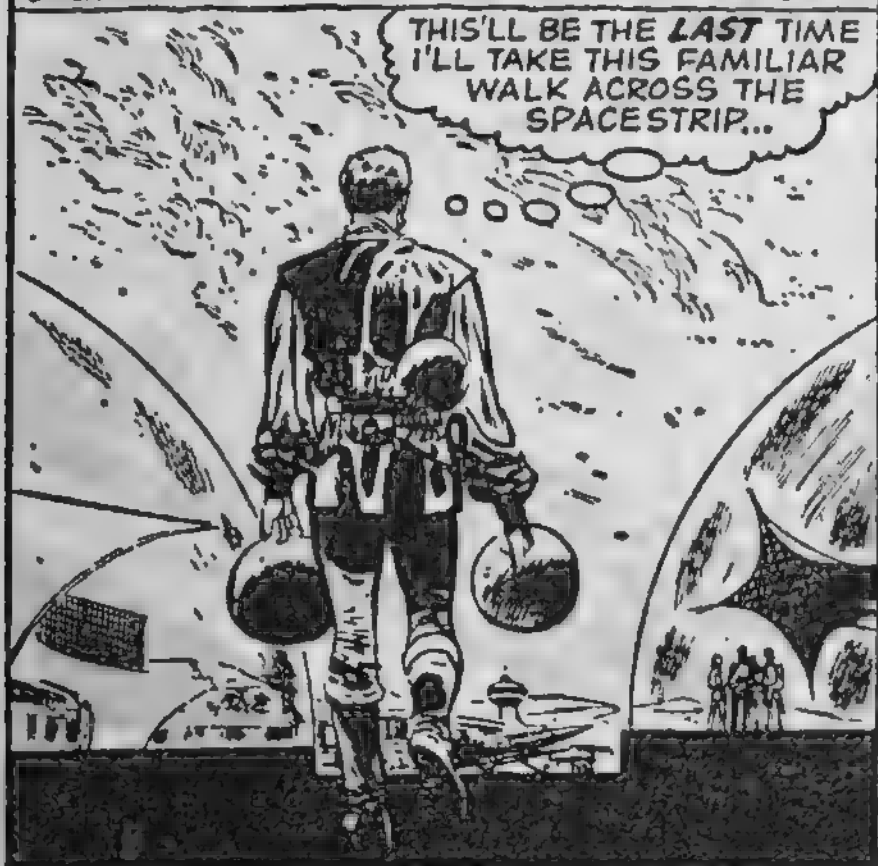
I'M AFRAID IT'S GETTING TO LOOK MORE AND MORE LIKE MY DAYS OF USEFULNESS ON THIS PLANET ARE OVER... MY SHIP IS TOO OLD FOR THESE MODERN TIMES-- AND SO AM I!



TOMORROW, I'M GONNA LEAVE THIS WORLD... I'M GONNA HEAD OUT INTO SPACE AND TRY TO FIND A NEW WORLD TO LIVE ON... A WORLD WHERE I'LL BE WELCOME--AND WHERE I AND MY SHIP WILL BE OF VALUE!



THE FOLLOWING MORNING, CHARLIE PACKED HIS BELONGINGS AND WENT OUT TO THE SPACEPORT...

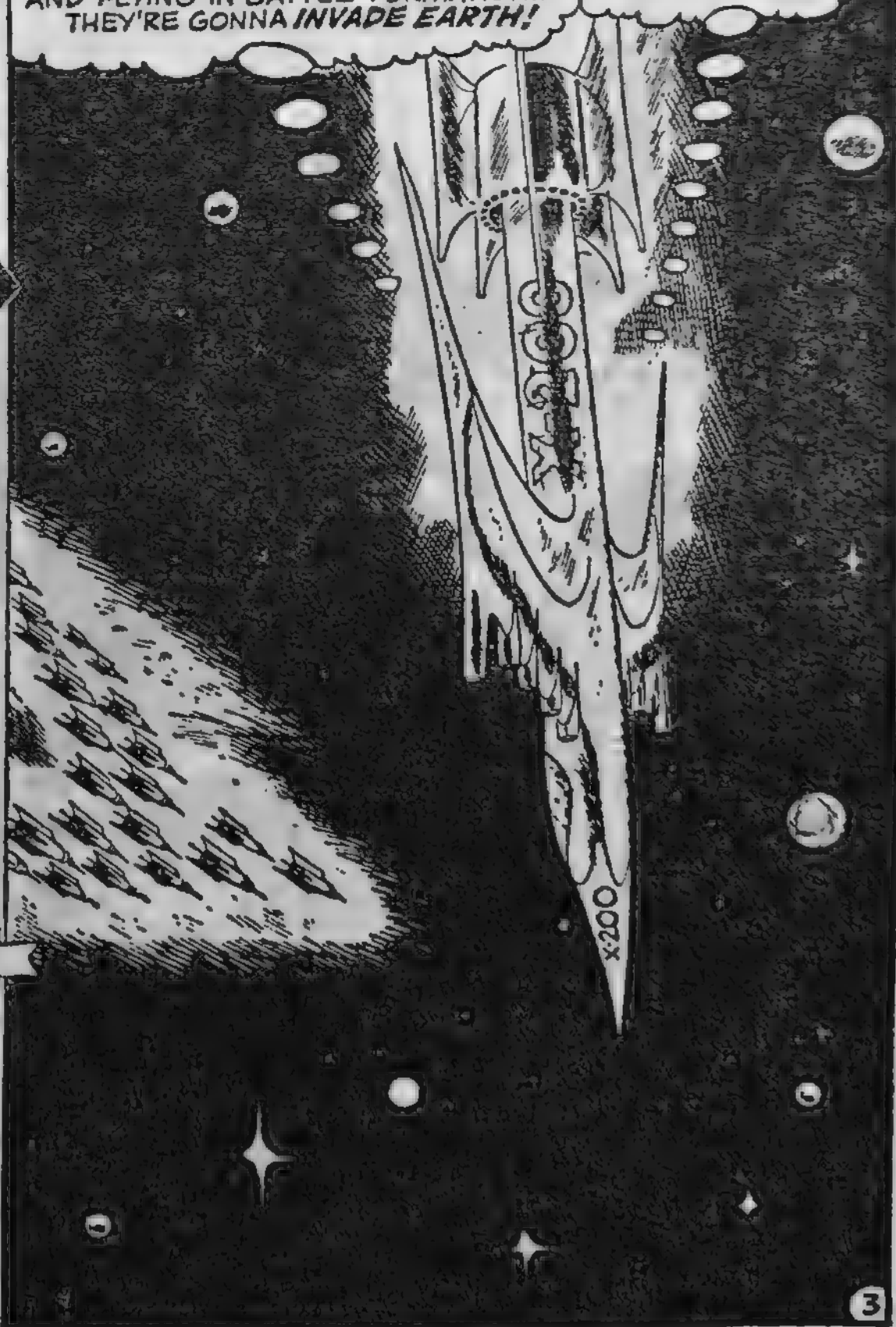


THE X-200 BLASTED OFF FROM EARTH--FOR WHAT WAS TO BE THE LAST TIME...



--AND THEY'RE ALL HEADED FOR EARTH!! THEY'RE FULLY ARMED... AND FLYING IN BATTLE FORMATION... THEY'RE GONNA INVADE EARTH!

THAT ARMADA'S GOTTA BE STOPPED... BUT HOW--HOW???



SUDDENLY, A SHORT DISTANCE AWAY, CHARLIE BREWSTER SAW THE ANSWER...





BUT THE PROVIDENTIAL ARRIVAL OF THE EARTH PATROL SOON  
TURNED INTO A DIRE AND IRONIC DISAPPOINTMENT...

WHA--THE PATROL PASSED AND DIDN'T  
EVEN NOTICE THE ALIEN INVADERS!!  
THE EARTH SHIPS WERE GOING SO  
FAST, THE PILOTS COULDN'T EVEN  
SEE THE ENEMY ARMADA!

I'D BETTER TRY TO  
WARN EARTH... BE-  
FORE THE INVADERS  
TAKE THEM BY  
SURPRISE...

COME IN, EARTH...COME IN,  
EARTH...THIS IS ROCKET SHIP  
X-200 REPORTING...I JUST  
SPOTTED A FLEET OF ALIEN  
INVADERS HEADING STRAIGHT  
TOWARD YOU!! AN EARTH SPACE  
SHIP PATROL ALSO JUST PASSED  
BY, BUT THEY WERE GOING  
MUCH TOO FAST TO SPOT THE  
INVADING FORCE!

THANKS,  
X-200!!  
WE'LL  
BE  
READY  
FOR THE  
INVADERS  
WHEN  
THEY GET  
HERE!

WHEN THE ALIEN INVADERS REACHED EARTH, THEY WERE MET BY  
THE POWERFUL FORCES OF A PLANET THAT HAD BEEN WARNED  
IN TIME!

THANK  
HEAVENS CHARLIE  
BREWSTER WARNED  
US!!

MAN! IF IT WASN'T  
FOR HIM, WE'D ALL  
HAVE BEEN CAUGHT  
UNAWARES--AND  
BEEN DEFEATED,  
FOR SURE!

MEANWHILE, CHARLIE BREWSTER TURNED HIS  
SPACECRAFT AROUND AND HEADED BACK TO  
EARTH...

MAYBE SOME OTHER TIME  
I'LL LEAVE EARTH... BUT I  
CAN'T LEAVE NOW... WHEN  
EARTH MAY NEED EVERY  
SHIP AND MAN!

THE STURDY AND DEPENDABLE X-200 SOON  
BROUGHT CHARLIE BACK TO EARTH... BUT WHEN HE  
EMERGED FROM THE ROCKET SHIP...

WHY--I DON'T UNDERSTAND--  
THERE MUST BE SOME MISTAKE!  
YOU ALL AREN'T WAITING TO  
SEE ME!?



WE CERTAINLY ARE WAITING TO SEE YOU, CHARLIE!!

AND THIS IS NO MISTAKE!! OUR MISTAKE WAS MADE BEFORE. WHEN WE LAUGHED AT YOUR OLD, PLODDING ROCKET SHIP!! WE APOLOGIZE FOR THAT, CHARLIE!

WE MADE FUN OF YOU AND YOUR SHIP...AND YOU SAVED US ALL FROM DESTRUCTION!! WE'LL ALWAYS BE GRATEFUL TO YOU, CHARLIE BREWSTER!



AND AS A TOKEN OF OUR APPRECIATION, WE WANT TO AWARD YOU THIS MEDAL!



ALSO, YOU'VE MADE US REALIZE THAT WE DO HAVE A NEED FOR SHIPS SUCH AS YOURS...SHIPS THAT DON'T GO TOO FAST TO THOROUGHLY SCAN THE SPACEWAYS!

SO WE'RE SETTING UP A SPECIAL PATROL OF SHIPS LIKE YOUR X-200 AND WE WANT YOU TO COMMAND THE PATROL!

AND SO IT WAS THAT CHARLIE BREWSTER LEARNED HE HAD NOT OUTLIVED HIS USEFULNESS...HE WOULD BE OF SERVICE TO HIS PLANET, EARTH, FOR MANY MORE YEARS TO COME...

BOY--IT'S SURE GOOD TO KNOW THAT BREWSTER'S PATROL IS FLYING AROUND!

YOU BET!! OUR WHOLE PLANET'S A LOT SAFER WITH CAPTAIN CHARLIE BREWSTER AND HIS MEN PATROLLING THE SKIES!

CAPTAIN BREWSTER, DO YOU THINK THERE ARE ANY HOSTILE ALIENS IN THIS VICINITY?

I DON'T KNOW, LIEUTENANT...BUT IF THERE EVER ARE, WE'LL SPOT 'EM--YOU CAN BANK ON THAT!



THE END

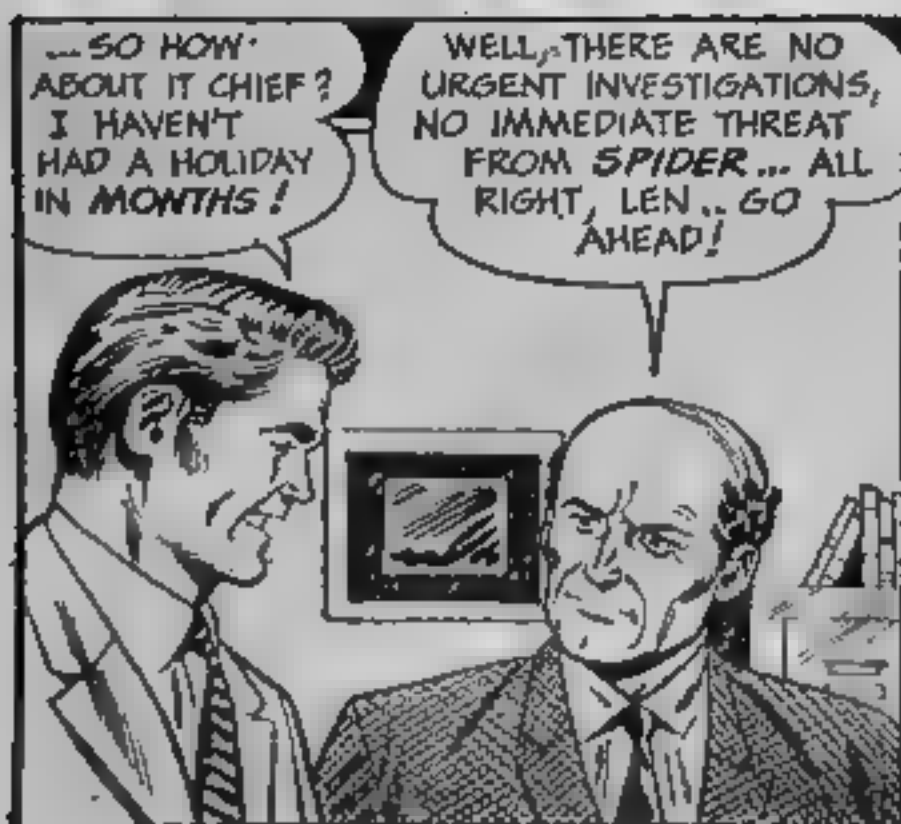




LEN BROWN HAS HIS OWN WAY OF DOING THINGS. EVEN RELAXING, AS WE'LL FIND OUT AS WE FOLLOW HIM ON

## DYNAMO'S DAY OFF!

CHIC STONE



...SO HOW ABOUT IT CHIEF? I HAVEN'T HAD A HOLIDAY IN MONTHS!

WELL, THERE ARE NO URGENT INVESTIGATIONS, NO IMMEDIATE THREAT FROM SPIDER... ALL RIGHT, LEN... GO AHEAD!



...BUT KEEP YOUR BELT HANDY AND YOUR RECEIVER OPEN! YOU NEVER CAN TELL... AND REMEMBER... A THUNDER AGENT IS ALWAYS ON STANDBY ALERT!

GOTCHA - I MEAN YES SIR, CHIEF! OBOY! HEY, ALICE!



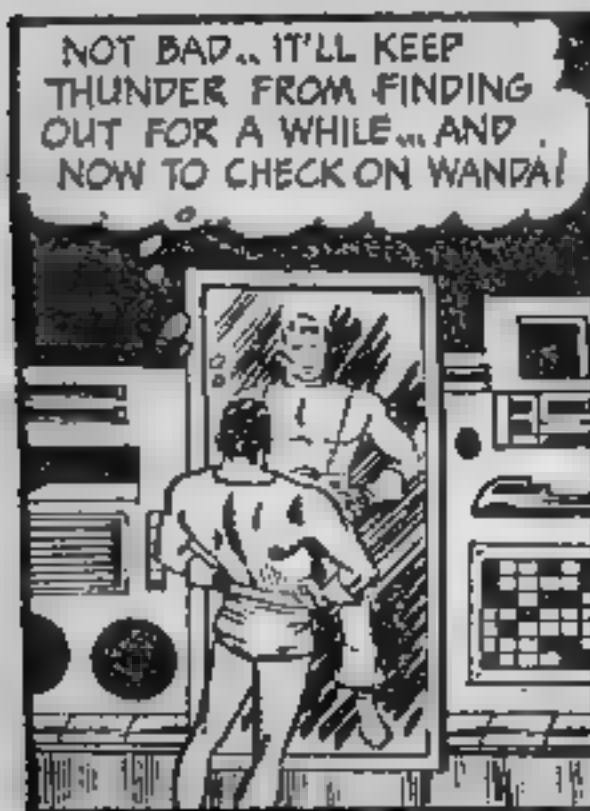




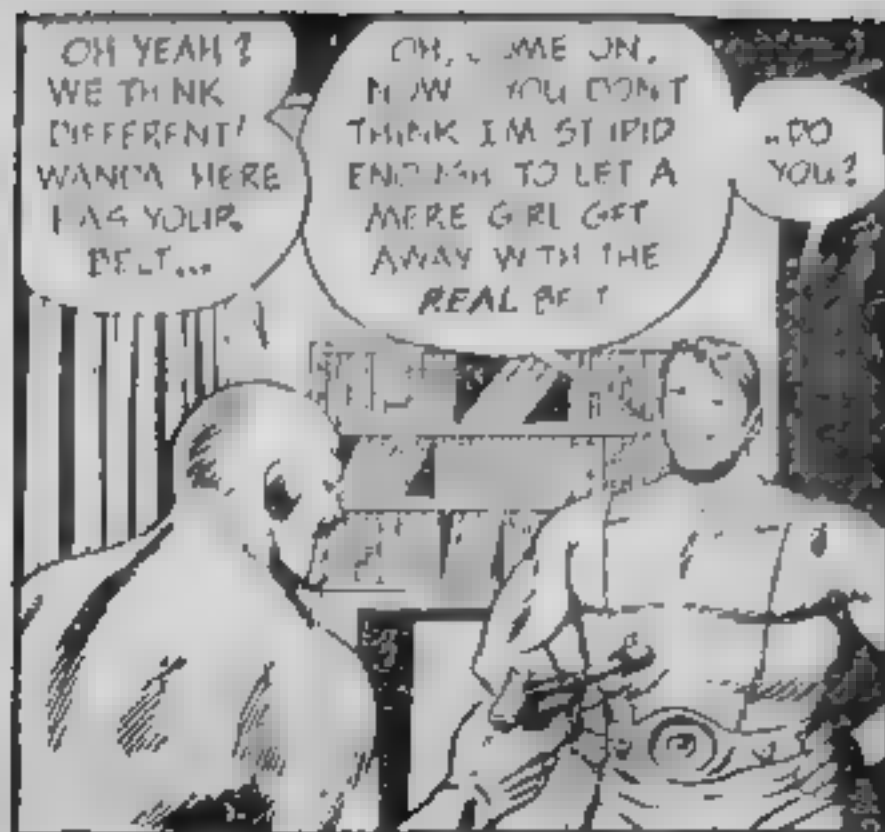












AS HE FLUNGES TOWARD  
CERTAIN DEATH, LEN TRIES  
TO REPLACE THE FAKE WITH  
THE REAL THUNDERBOLT...

...IF I DON'T  
MAKE IT, THEY'LL  
HAVE TO PICK  
ME UP WITH A  
MOP!

THERE!  
GOT IT ON-  
...NOW...

LOOK OUT BELOW!

CRACK!

KROOME!

NOW I'M REALLY GETTING  
SORE... NOW TO GET BACK UP  
TO THE PENTHOUSE...

..IN A SINGLE  
LEAP!

HMM - MIGHT TAKE  
TWO LEAPS!

AS HE ARRIVES AT THE TOP...

NOW TO TAKE CARE OF  
THOSE SPIDER RATS...HMM...  
NO SIGN OF THEM...



IN A PLEST  
OF RAW POWER  
DYNAMO RIPS THE  
FRONT OF THE  
TENTHOUSE...

COME OUT/  
COME OUT/  
WHEREVER  
YOU ARE!

WHEN WILL YOU  
EVIL-DOERS LEARN  
YOU CAN'T ESCAPE  
FROM THE LONG ARM  
OF LEONARD BROWN!

DESERTED! THEY  
MUST HAVE...

YES..THE ELEVATOR  
IS GOING DOWN..

MUST GET  
UP ON THE  
ROOF!

NOW WHERE'S  
THE ELEVATOR  
SHAFT..?

AH, HERE  
WE ARE...

HA! WON'T THEY  
BE SURPRISED  
WISH I COULD SEE  
THEIR FACES!

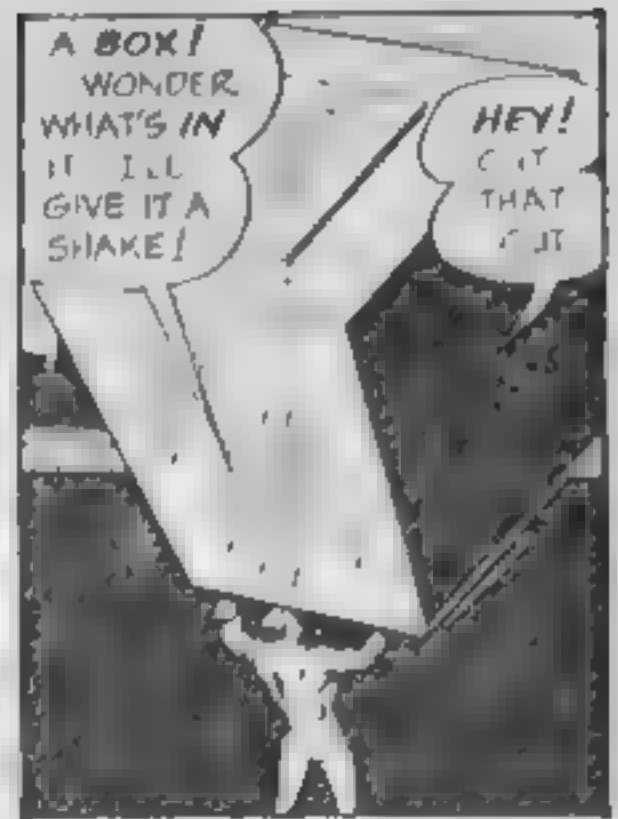


HEY!  
WE'VE  
STOPPED!

.. NOW WE'RE  
GOING UP!



GEE, THIS IS FUN! WON-  
DER WHAT'S ON THE END  
OF THIS WIRE...



A BOX!  
WONDER  
WHAT'S IN  
IT. I'LL  
GIVE IT A  
SHAKE!

HEY!  
CUT  
THAT  
OUT



WELL, THAT "WRAPS  
IT UP," TO COIN A  
PHRASE... I'LL JUST  
DELIVER THIS  
SURPRISE PACKAGE  
TO THE CHIEF!

.. I HOPE THOSE CROOKS  
DON'T TELL HIM HOW  
THIS ALL HAPPENED. BUT  
I'VE GOT A FEELING...

HEY!

OOF!

AND SO, LATER...



...WELL, YOU CAME THROUGH ALL  
RIGHT IN THE END, SO WE ARE LET-  
TING YOU OFF WITH A REPRIMAND  
**THIS TIME**, BUT IF YOU EVER PULL  
ANOTHER STUNT LIKE THIS AGAIN,  
YOU'RE IN **TROUBLE, BROWN..**  
**SERIOUS TROUBLE...**



.. **LOSING THE  
BELT WAS BAD  
ENOUGH, BUT  
NOT REPORT-  
ING IT! THAT'S  
KID STUFF!**  
YOU'RE JUST  
LUCKY...

UH.. ONE  
THING, SIR..  
I DIDN'T  
EXACTLY  
HAVE MY  
HOLIDAY.. I  
MEAN..



**WHAT!?**  
**WHY YOU..**  
**YOU'VE HAD**  
**YOUR DAY**  
**OFF, YOU..**  
**GET OUT**  
**OF HERE!**

GEE I WAS  
ONLY ASKING..  
YOU DON'T  
HAVE TO  
HOLLER...

POOR  
LEN!



'POOR LEN'?!  
I THOUGHT  
YOU DIDN'T  
CARE... YOU  
SAID..

IT DOESN'T  
MATTER WHAT  
I SAID, LEN..  
I DO CARE..  
TOO MUCH..

THE END



YOUR NAME IS JOE PALMER...  
AND YOUR EYES LIGHT UP AS  
YOU COME ACROSS A NEWS-  
PAPER IN THIS YEAR OF OUR  
LORD, 1960...

HELLO! WHAT'S  
**THIS--!!**



IT INTERESTS YOU BE-  
CAUSE YOU ARE A  
HITHERTO UNSUCCESSFUL  
CRIMINAL... AND YOU  
FIGURE **NOW** THERE  
MAY BE A WAY TO  
CHANGE THAT STATUS...

A **TIME MACHINE**,  
HUH! THIS GIVES  
ME AN **IDEA!**



I THINK **NOW** MAY BE THE TIME  
TO PULL THAT BANK CAPER I'VE  
BEEN WORKING ON! AND **THIS**  
TIME, THANKS TO PROFESSOR  
WHITEHEAD'S TIME MACHINE...  
THE COPS **WON'T** CATCH  
ME!



# ESCAPE <sup>TO</sup> TOMORROW!

LESS THAN AN HOUR  
LATER, YOU WHEEL  
UP TO CENTER CITY'S  
FIRST NATIONAL BANK...

NAL BANK

CENTER CITY  
FIRST  
NATIONAL  
BANK



HERE'S THE  
BANK!... IF I PULL  
THIS OFF RIGHT, I  
OUGHTTA GET  
ENOUGH DOUGH TO  
RETIRE FOR LIFE!

OAK ST.

MAIN ST.



SLOWLY--CASUALLY--YOU ENTER THE BANK...

NOT TOO CROWDED--GOOD! I'LL PICK THE SECOND TELLER'S CAGE--HE LOOKS LIKE A TIMID SAP!



YOU WAIT ON THE SHORT LINE, AT THE SECOND TELLER'S CAGE...AND WHEN IT'S YOUR TURN...

I'VE A GUN IN HERE, BUSTER!... JUST WAITING TO USE IT... UNLESS YOU HAND OVER ALL THE DOUGH IN YOUR DRAWER!

Y-YES, SIR! --DON'T SHOOT! ANYTHING YOU SAY-- ONLY DON'T SHOOT!



YOU LEAVE THE BANK... AND RUN TO YOUR CAR!

SO FAR SO GOOD! NOW TO GET OUTTA HERE FAST!



YOU RACE OUT OF THE CITY--MINUTES AHEAD OF PURSUING POLICE CARS! SOON YOU'RE MAKING THE TURNS ALONG A MOUNTAIN ROAD... HEADING TOWARD THE HOME AND LABORATORY OF PROFESSOR ALVIN WHITEHEAD!

THERE'S WHITEHEAD'S PLACE--UP AHEAD! GOTTA HURRY! THE COPS'LL SOON CATCH UP WITH ME!



YOU KNOCK ON THE DOOR...AND IT'S ANSWERED BY A DISTINGUISHED-LOOKING ELDERLY MAN...

PROFESSOR WHITEHEAD?

JUST DO AS I TELL YOU-- AND YOU WON'T GET HURT! NOW TAKE ME TO YOUR LABORATORY-- TO WHERE YOU KEEP YOUR TIME MACHINE!

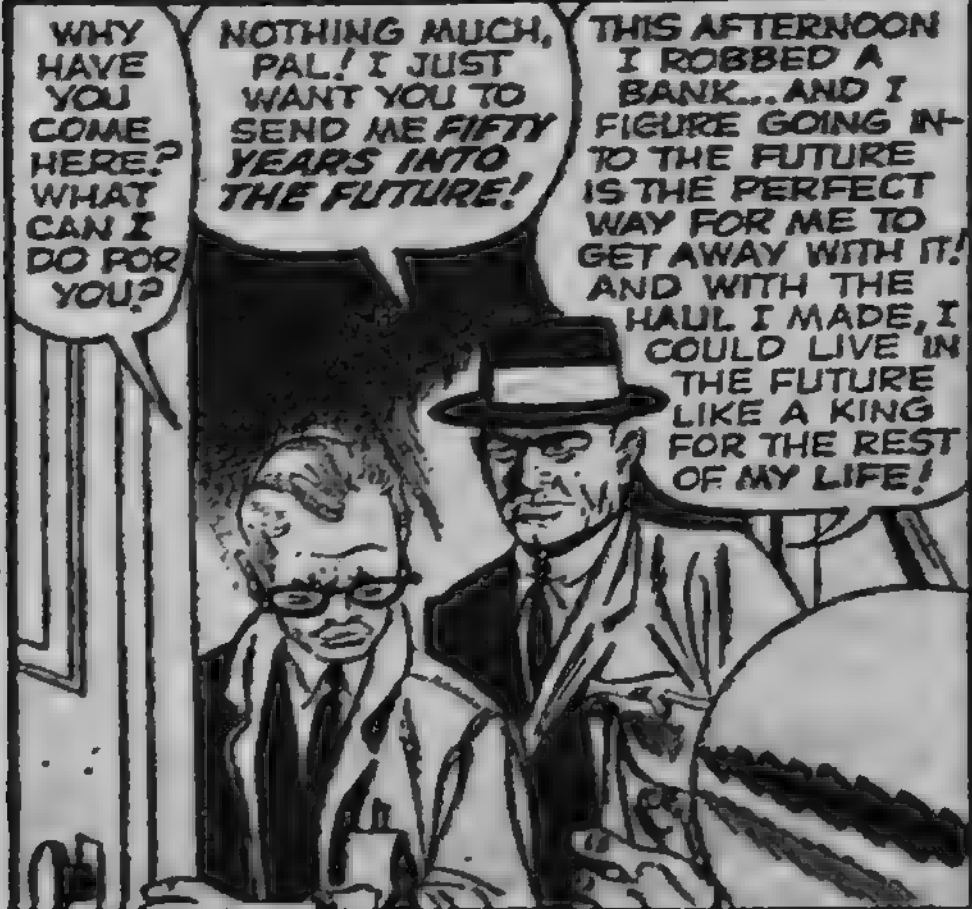
YES!--BUT THAT GUN-- WHAT DO YOU WANT?



WHY HAVE YOU COME HERE? WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?

NOTHING MUCH, PAL! I JUST WANT YOU TO SEND ME FIFTY YEARS INTO THE FUTURE!

THIS AFTERNOON I ROBBED A BANK...AND I FIGURE GOING IN-TO THE FUTURE IS THE PERFECT WAY FOR ME TO GET AWAY WITH IT! AND WITH THE HAUL I MADE, I COULD LIVE IN THE FUTURE LIKE A KING FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE!



YOUR HARSH WORDS AND LOADED GUN CONVINCE PROFESSOR WHITEHEAD THAT HE'D BETTER DO AS YOU SAY... AND SO, WITHIN A FEW MINUTES...

I'VE ADJUSTED THE MACHINE... AND SET THE TIME FOR THE YEAR 2010! ARE YOU READY?

READY, PROFESSOR! FIRE AWAY!







PROFESSOR WHITE-  
HEAD THROWS THE  
SWITCH--AND THE  
MACHINE BEGINS  
TO OPERATE! YOUR  
MUSCLES GROW  
RIGID... YOU FEEL  
A TREMENDOUS  
PRESSURE THROUGH-  
OUT YOUR BODY...  
IT MOUNTS... YOU  
EXPAND... AND JUST  
BEFORE YOU FEEL  
YOU'LL BURST-- IT  
LESSENS-- YOU  
RELAX-- YOU START  
TO DRIFT-- TO  
DISSOLVE INTO AN  
ENDLESS VOID OF  
SPACE AND TIME...

YOU COME TO SLOWLY-- PAIN-  
FULLY... AMID THE SOUND OF  
FRIENDLY VOICES... YOU'RE NOW  
IN THE YEAR 2010...

OH--MY  
HEAD!  
WHERE AM  
I?... WHERE'VE  
I LANDED

YOU'RE  
IN THE  
PROVINCE  
OF  
IDYLIA!

FROM WHAT  
YEAR HAVE  
YOU COME?

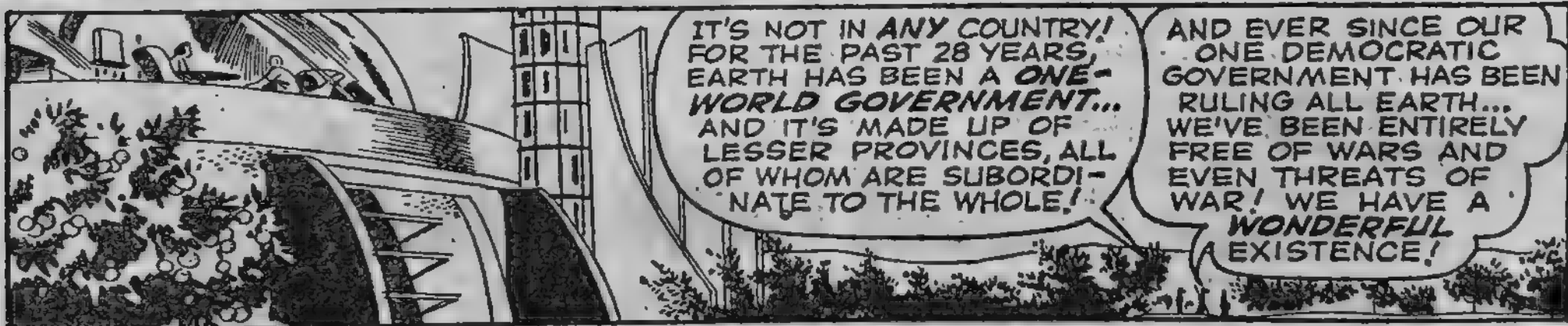
I  
CAME  
FROM  
1960!



1960?... WHY THAT'S FARTHER  
BACK THAN ANY OF THE  
OTHER TIME TRAVELERS  
COME FROM! YOU WERE  
PROBABLY THE **FIRST**  
TIME TRAVELER!

YEAH!-- I  
GUESS SO!

SAY, PAL-- YOU  
SAID THIS IS  
THE PROVINCE  
OF IDYLIA! I NEVER  
HEARD OF THE  
PLACE! WHAT  
**COUNTRY** IS IT IN?



IT'S NOT IN ANY COUNTRY!  
FOR THE PAST 28 YEARS,  
EARTH HAS BEEN A **ONE-  
WORLD GOVERNMENT...**  
AND IT'S MADE UP OF  
LESSER PROVINCES, ALL  
OF WHOM ARE SUBORDI-  
NATE TO THE WHOLE!

AND EVER SINCE OUR  
ONE DEMOCRATIC  
GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN  
RULING ALL EARTH...  
WE'VE BEEN ENTIRELY  
FREE OF WARS AND  
EVEN THREATS OF  
WAR! WE HAVE A  
**WONDERFUL**  
EXISTENCE!



IT SOUNDS  
SWELL! WELL--  
GUESS I'LL  
GO INTO THE  
CITY, AND  
CHECK IN AT  
A HOTEL!

I HAVE TO  
GO INTO  
TOWN, ALSO!  
I'LL GIVE  
YOU A LIFT  
IN MY  
CAR!

BY THE WAY, MISTER,  
YOU'D BETTER GET  
ONE OF THESE  
**WRIST BANDS** AS  
SOON AS POSSIBLE!  
IT'S AGAINST THE LAW  
TO GO AROUND WITH-  
OUT ONE!



WHY IS IT  
NECESSARY  
TO HAVE A  
WRIST BAND?

THEY GIVE OFF CERTAIN  
ELECTRONIC WAVES THAT  
THE POLICE CAN TUNE  
INTO! THAT WAY, THE  
POLICE CAN IMMEDIATELY  
**LOCATE** ANYONE THEY  
WANT! THIS DEVICE --  
AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS  
--HAVE **ABOLISHED**  
**CRIME** THROUGHOUT  
THE WORLD!

WITHIN A FEW MINUTES, YOU'VE ENTERED THE CITY... A CITY DIFFERENT FROM ANY YOU'VE EVER SEEN...

MAN! WHATTA PLACE! THIS IS MORE MODERN THAN ANYTHING I COULD'VE IMAGINED! THINGS SURE HAVE CHANGED SINCE 1960!

I GUESS WE **HAVE** MADE A LOT OF PROGRESS SINCE THEN!

**THERE'S** A CHOICE HOTEL! YOU WON'T GO WRONG STAYING THERE!

YOU GET OUT OF THE CAR... AND GO INTO THE HOTEL TO REGISTER ...YOU TAKE SOME MONEY FROM THE LOOT IN YOUR BRIEF CASE ...YOU WANT TO PAY IN ADVANCE ...AND THEN YOU FIND OUT-- THE **ONE** THING YOU **NEVER** COUNTED ON--

I'M SORRY, SIR-- BUT THIS MONEY IS **NO** GOOD! WE HAVEN'T BEEN USING THIS CURRENCY SINCE THE WORLD GOVERNMENT WAS FORMED!

WHAT!! THAT'S **IMPOSSIBLE!**

I'M AFRAID IT ISN'T, SIR! THE MONEY YOU HAVE HAD VALUE MANY YEARS AGO-- BUT TODAY, IT'S COMPLETELY **WORTHLESS!**

YOU WALK FROM THE HOTEL... STUNNED BY THE GRIM REALIZATION OF THE MISTAKE YOU MADE...

WHATTA BONER I PULLED! I STOLE A FORTUNE IN MONEY... BUT I LANDED IN A TIME WHEN IT ISN'T WORTH THE PAPER IT'S PRINTED ON!

WHAT'LL I DO **NOW!** I'M STUCK HERE-- WITH **NO** WAY TO GET BACK TO THE PAST!

I'LL HAVE TO GET HOLD OF SOME OF THE DOUGH THAT THEY **USE** IN THIS PLACE... BUT HOW? THE ONLY WAY I KNOW IS STEALING! I NEVER LEARNED NOTHING ELSE!... AND WITH THE MODERN DEVICES THE COPS HERE HAVE-- I'D **NEVER** GET AWAY WITH IT!

YOU HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE! YOU GO TO THE LOCAL UNEMPLOYMENT OFFICE...

DON'T YOU HAVE ANYTHING THAT AIN'T TOO TECHNICAL?... SOMETHING THAT I CAN QUALIFY FOR?...

THESE DAYS IT'S DIFFICU---AH, HERE WE ARE! THIS IS ONE OF THE FEW **UNSKILLED** JOB THAT'S OPEN!

AND SO IT COMES ABOUT THAT YOU, JOE PALMER, ARE NOW WORKING HARDER THAN YOU'VE EVER WORKED BEFORE... AND EARNING JUST ENOUGH MONEY FOR BARE EXISTENCE!

THE GUY WHO WROTE "CRIME DOESN'T PAY" SURE KNEW WHAT HE WAS TALKIN' ABOUT! EVEN A TIME MACHINE CAN'T BEAT IT! I'M NO BETTER OFF THAN I WAS IN THE PAST!... NO, I GUESS I **AM** BETTER OFF... I LEARNED A LESSON ...AND **THAT'S** SOMETHING!

THE END



ANCIENT BOTTLES CONTAINING GENIES... THAT'S AN OLD STORY! AND ALL THAT JAZZ ABOUT THE THREE WISHES... WE'VE ALL HEARD IT BEFORE BUT WITH OUR OWN SPECIAL BRAND OF MAGIC, WE'RE GOING TO PULL A SWITCHEROO. ALL SET? HERE IT IS, THEN... THE BREATHLESS STORY OF...

# The FOURTH WISH!



PLOT:  
JOE MORRISON  
DRAWING:  
BOB JENNEY

## THE OFFICE OF SIZZLING STUNT-FLYERS, INC. ...

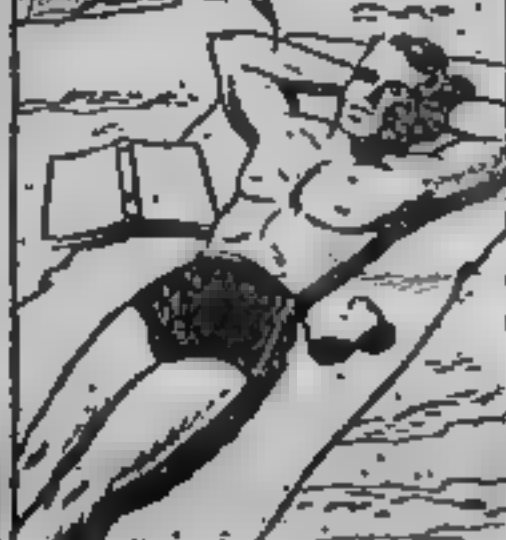
HERE I'M TRYIN' HARD TO LAND THE BIG BOOKING AT THE MISSOURI STATE FAIR IF ONLY WE CAN COME UP WITH A GOOD STUNT GIMMICK... AND WHAT DO YOU DO, TED? MY STAR PILOT... AND YOU DECIDE YOU GOTTA TAKE A VACATION!



YOU KNOW THE REASON, PINKY? BECAUSE I'VE BEEN STUNTING FOR YOU UNTIL MY BLOOD PRESSURE ZOOMED. EITHER I GET A REST NOW, OR BLOOEY!

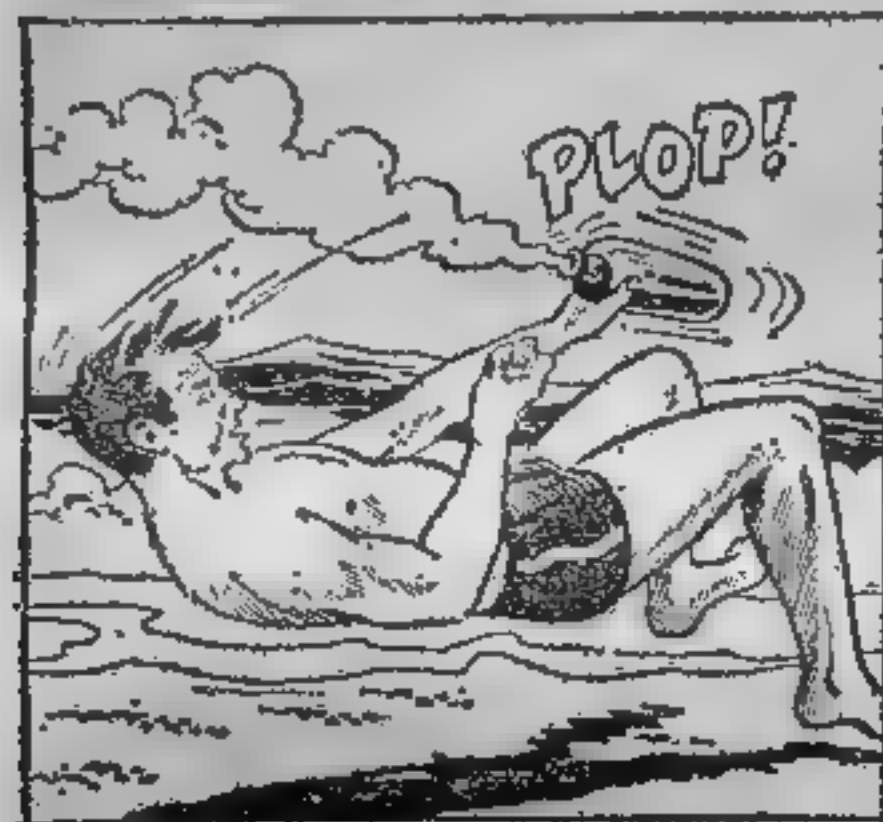
SO TED WILKINS GOT HIS REST...

AH-HHH! THIS IS THE LIFE, ALL RIGHT. THINK I'LL TAKE A NAP...



HE NAPPED... BUT HIS DREAMS WEREN'T RELAXED...







WHO CARES ABOUT STORIES? THIS IS REAL LIFE AND YOU'VE GOT TO FACE **FACTS**, LIKE THIS... THERE I WAS, HAPPY AND COMFORTABLE IN THAT COZY BOTTLE FOR 3,417 YEARS. AND YOU HAD TO COME ALONG AND EVICT ME. FOR THAT, YOU PAY... **THREE WISHES' WORTH!**



UNLESS, OF COURSE, YOU THINK THAT **DEATH** IS A BETTER FATE...?

NO, NO! I'LL D-DO **ANYTHING**... JUST LET ME LIVE! BUT PLEASE START WITH AN **EASY** ONE FOR YOUR FIRST WISH, HUH?



I WON'T BE HARD ON YOU. LET'S SEE... BACK IN MY TIME, IN THE **ARABIAN NIGHTS**, THERE WAS A BIRD BIGGER THAN ANY ON EARTH... THE **ROC** THEY CALLED IT. I ALWAYS LONGED TO RIDE ONE OF THEM... SO THAT'S MY **FIRST WISH!**



HOLY COW, I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO MAKE IT **EASY!** HOW'M I GOING TO MANAGE IT? A THING LIKE THAT TAKES **TIME**...

YOU'VE GOT A **WEEK**, SO YOU'D BETTER NOT WASTE IT!



A FEW DAYS PASSED AND TED DIDN'T EVEN COME UP WITH AN **IDEA**...

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE, IT'S **CRAZY!** HOW COULD I BRING A **ROC** BACK OUT OF TIME, AND FIX IT SO THAT BIG LUNK COULD RIDE IT?... SAY, WHAT AM I WORRYING ABOUT, ANYWAY? THE DUMB GENIE DIDN'T EVEN TAKE MY ADDRESS... HE DOESN'T KNOW WHERE TO REACH ME!



**CORRECTION!** I'M ALWAYS NEAR YOU... AND I'M HERE TO REMIND YOU THAT YOU'VE ONLY GOT A FEW DAYS LEFT TO COME THROUGH ON THAT WISH! AND IF YOU DON'T... **CURTAINS!**

I'M **DOOMED!**



BUT WHILE THERE'S LIFE, THERE'S HOPE... AND NOW A GREAT IDEA CAME TO TED...

NOPE, I HAVEN'T COME UP WITH A GIMMICK TO GET THAT BOOKING AT THE MISSOURI STATE FAIR YET YOU THOUGHT OF SOMETHING?

HAVE I! LISTEN, PEOPLE ARE USED TO ORDINARY STUNT FLYING IN ORDINARY PLANES, RIGHT? BUT SUPPOSE WE TRIED IT IN A PLANE THAT DIDN'T LOOK LIKE ANY OTHER. SUPPOSE IT LOOKED LIKE A **CRAZY GONE BIRD!**



YOU **NUTS!** A BIRD! YOU THINK PEOPLE'D BE INTERESTED IN WATCHING SOME DOPPEL CANARY GO THROUGH ITS PAGES?



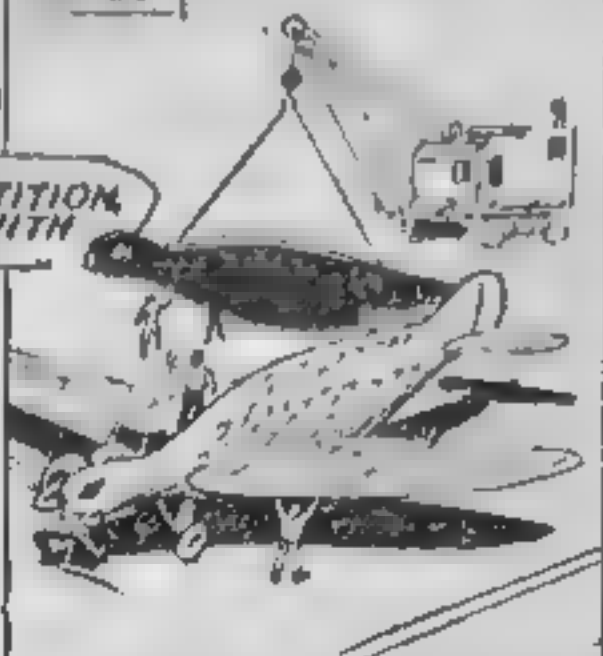
I DIDN'T HAVE ANY CANARY IN MIND... I HAD SOMETHING DIFFERENT! I'VE GOT A PICTURE RIGHT HERE WITH ME... IT'S IN A BOOK...

HERE IT IS... YOU THINK PEOPLE WOULD WANT TO WATCH SOMETHING LIKE THIS STUNT FLYING?

CRABBY... BUT WHAT MAYBE YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING TO SELL IT? GOT A NOVELTY APP? AND WE WOULDN'T HAVE TO BE SCARED OF COMPETITION... ANYWAY GO AHEAD WITH IT!



SO TED WENT AHEAD WITH IT. THEATRICAL DESIGNERS, ACCUSTOMED TO HIGH WORK, WERE CALLED IN... AND ONLY THE "ROC" TOOK GLANCE!



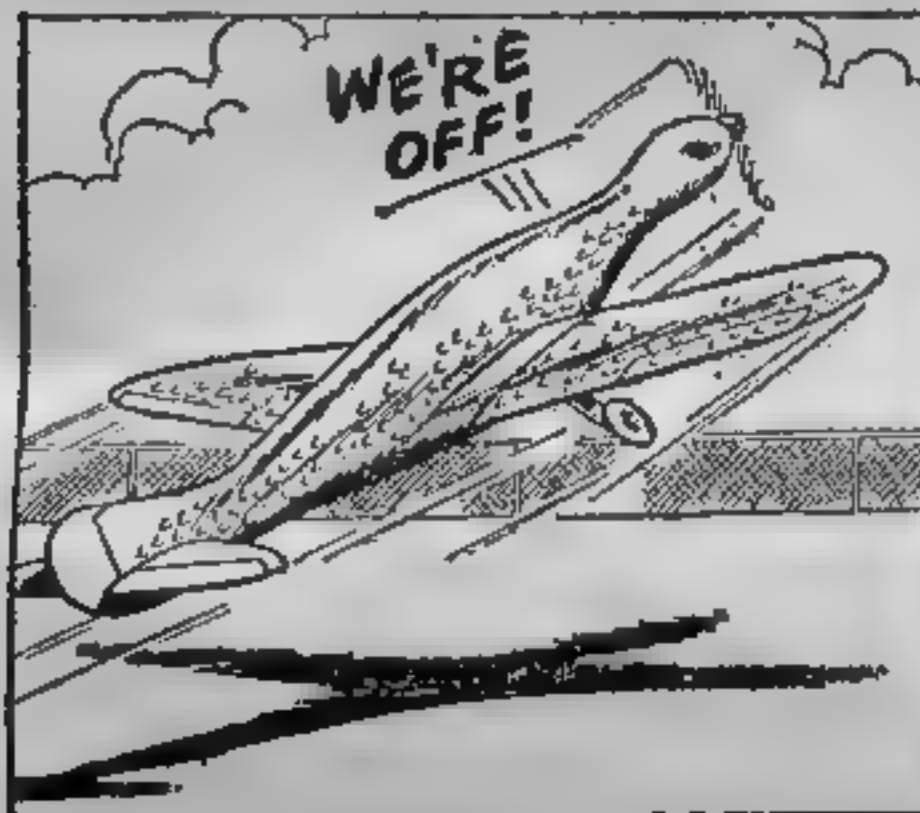
**WORLD'S GREATEST STUNT-FLYER!**  
SEE THE ROC IN ITS DEATH-DEFYING AIR TRICKS  
MISSOURI STATE FAIR SATURDAY 3 P.M.

**DAILY TRIBUNE**  
STUNT-FLYER HITS JACKPOT  
ACETED WILKINS TO PILOT TRICK CRAFT IN SHAPE OF HUGE ANCIENT BIRD

WHAT AN IDEA! A FABULOUS GIANT BIRD FROM OUT OF ARABIAN NIGHTS WILL STUNT FOR THOUSANDS AT THE MISSOURI FAIR...

IT IS A "ROC"... YOU'VE GOTTEN ME A ROC! BUT REMEMBER... MY WISH WAS TO RIDE IT!

SO HELP ME, YOU'RE GOING TO! NOW MAKE YOURSELF INVISIBLE AS WE GO OUT TO IT... IT WOULDN'T DO FOR YOU TO SCARE ALL THE PEOPLE HERE!...



YOU DID IT! NOT ONLY DO I GET TO RIDE THE ROC, BUT I'M INSIDE IT AND THAT'S EVEN BETTER THAN BEING ON ITS BACK, WHERE I COULD FALL OFF!

FINE... BUT DON'T BLAME ME IF THIS PARTICULAR ROC STARTS TO ACT UP A B.T. AFTER ALL, YOU KNOW THESE ROC'S!





SEE WHAT I MEANT?

YEEEE-OWW!



H-HELP!  
I REG OF  
YOU, ROC  
... BRING  
ME DOWN..

B BUT  
IN ONE  
PIECE!



IT'S OVER... HERE  
ON THE GROUND...  
HOW'D YOU LIVE  
T F WAY TO  
FIRST WISH  
I GNEED OUT?

OH-HHH  
DEAD TO ME  
TO CROSS  
ROCS OFF  
MY LIST?



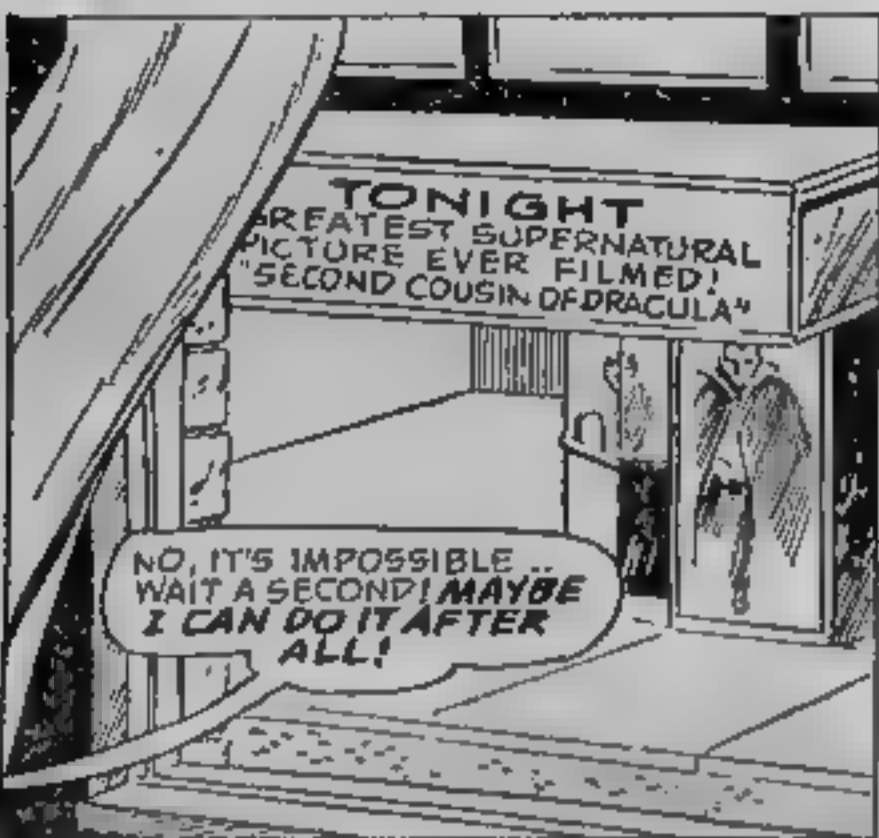
THAT NIGHT...  
IT WAS SO EASY  
AND NOW IT'S  
ALL OVER!

CORRECTION!  
I'M HERE TO TALK  
OVER MY SECOND  
WISH!



YOU AGAIN! OH, YES,  
OF COURSE, YOUR...  
ER... SECOND WISH.  
HAVE YOU MADE UP  
YOUR MIND WHAT  
IT IS?

YES SIR. WHEN I WAS  
A YOUNG GENIE, I  
REMEMBER ALL MY  
PALS. THE SPOOKS I  
USED TO HANG OUT WITH.  
SUCH LOVELY SPOOKS.  
I'D BE SO HAPPY F I  
COULD SEE THEM  
AGAIN. WELL, THAT'S  
MY SECOND WISH!  
THINK YOU CAN  
GRANT IT?



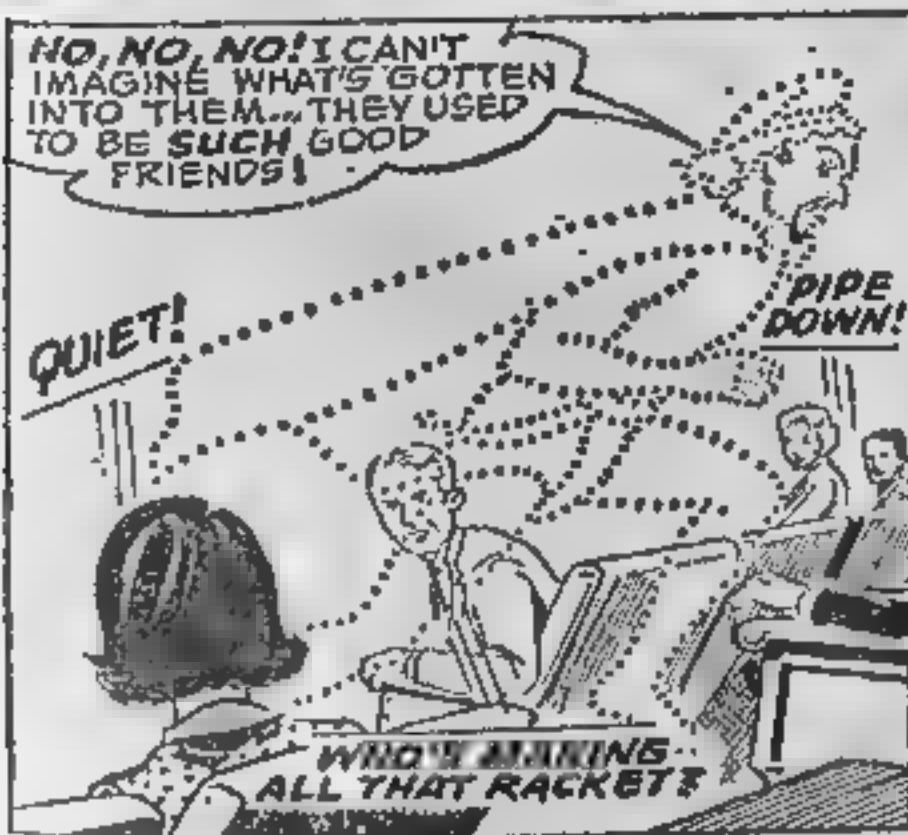
NO, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE...  
WAIT A SECOND! MAYBE  
I CAN DO IT AFTER  
ALL!



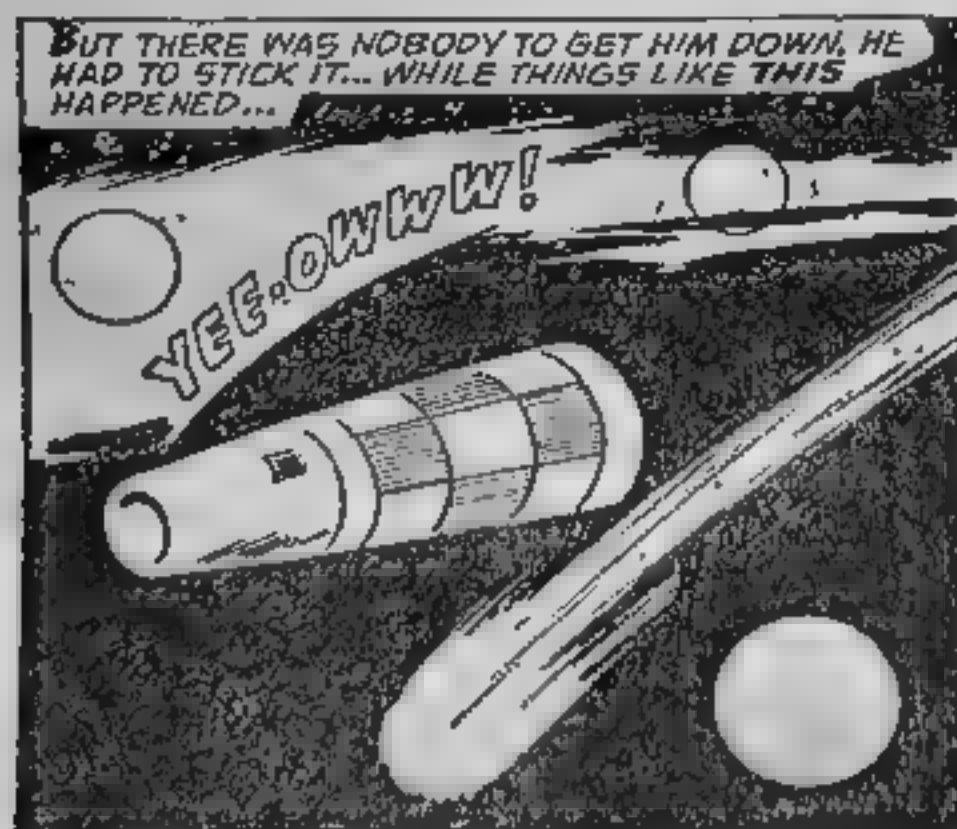
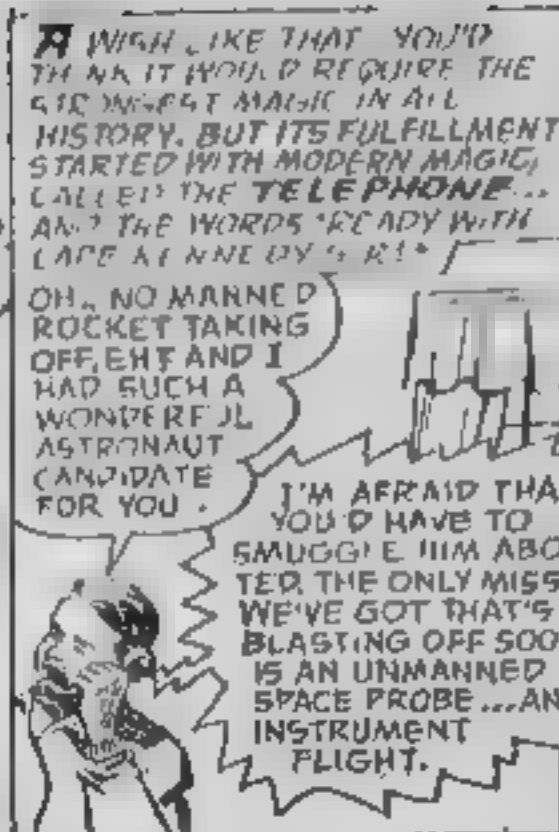
WHAT SORT OF PLACE  
IS THIS? WHY HAVE  
WE COME HERE?

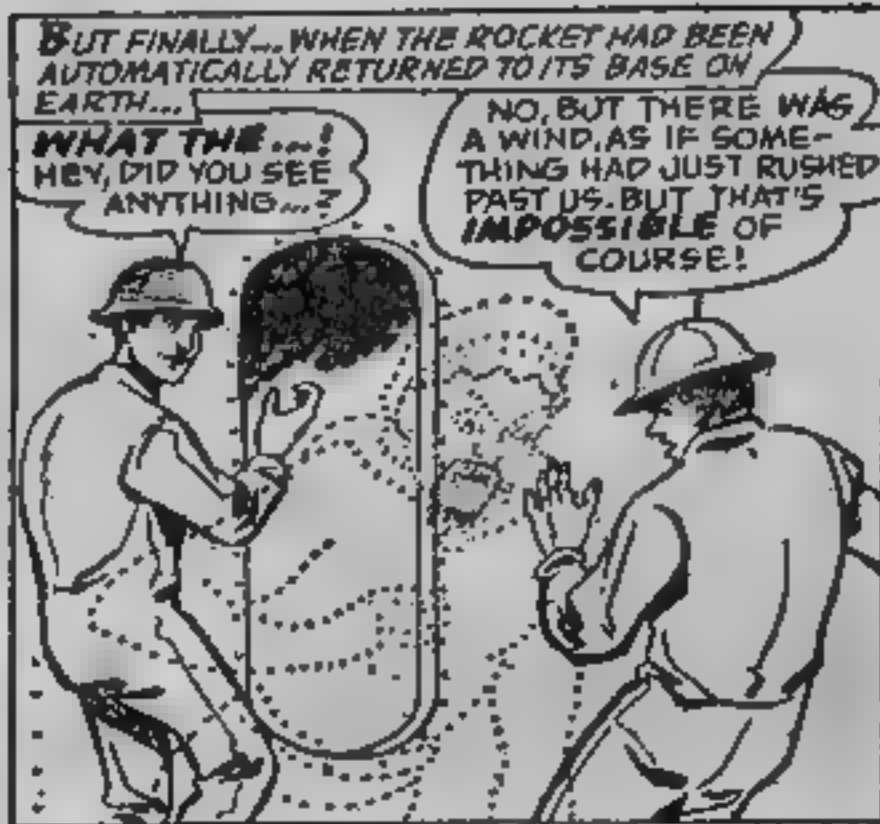
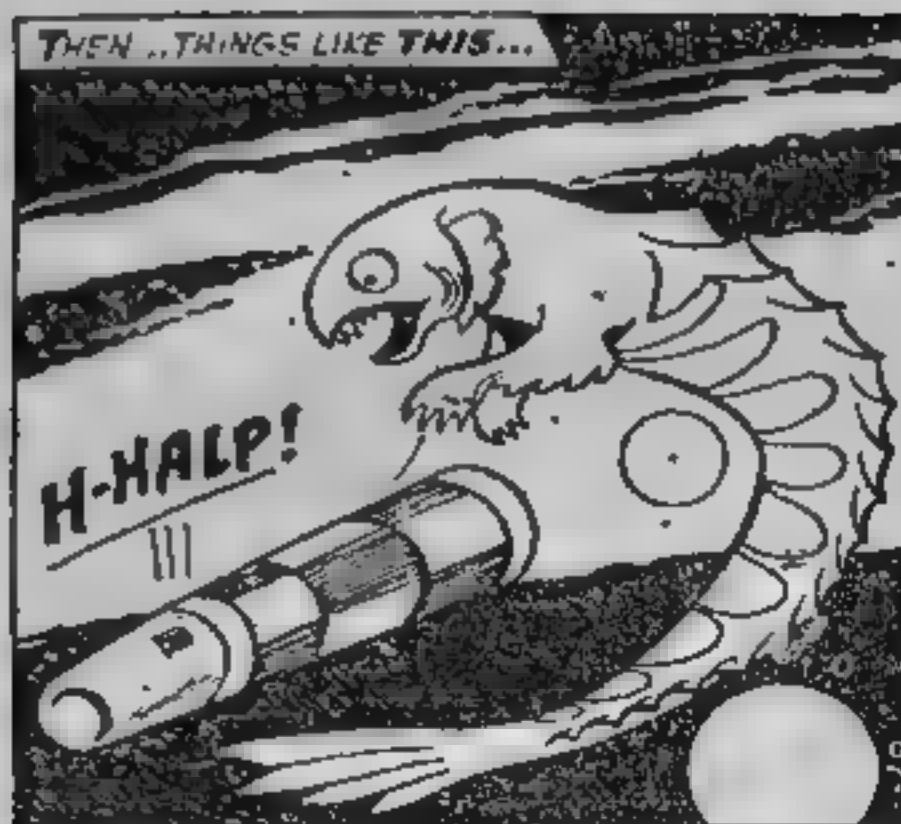
SH-HHH! BE  
PATIENT... AND  
KEEP ON LOOKING  
DOWN THERE!

MIRACLE FILMS  
present  
"SECOND  
COUSIN  
OF  
DRACULA"











# THE CREATURES FROM THE BOTTOMLESS PIT!

**DOWN--**

**DOWN--**

**DOWN...**

INTO THE "BOTTOMLESS PIT" UNDER THE OCEAN FLOOR THE BATHYSPHERE SLOWLY DESCENDED...

A DRY CAVERN BENEATH TONS OF OCEAN WATER??

SUDDENLY IT STOPPED! AND FROM ALL AROUND THE SUSPENDED SPHERE...

MUST HAVE RUN OUT OF CABLE! WAIT... WHAT ARE THESE CREATURES? WHERE DID THEY COME FROM?? THE EXTREME DEPTH AND PRESSURE MUST BE CAUSING ME TO HAVE HALLUCINATIONS!

AT LAST! A VISITOR FROM THE UPPER WORLD!

HE BRINGS US A MEANS OF ESCAPING FROM OUR IMPRISONMENT HERE!

INSIDE, SERGE KEMPLET, THE WEALTHY, INDUSTRIAL TYCOON, WAS SO STUNNED, HE COULD ONLY STARE IN DISBELIEF!!

THEY'RE OPENING THE HATCH!!

Ditko

THE CREATURES POURED IN, OVER-POWERING THE DAZED SERGE BY THE SHEER WEIGHT OF THEIR NUMBERS!

HOW DID YOU LEARN OF THIS PLACE AND WHY HAVE YOU COME?

I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE THIS IS ALL **REAL!!**



**SPEAK UP!** WE HAVE NO PATIENCE WITH SURFACE DWELLERS! WE'VE WAITED DOWN HERE TOO LONG!



I DIDN'T FIND THE PIT THAT LEADS HERE!-- IT WAS FIRST DISCOVERED TWO MONTHS AGO, BY CHANCE...

HOW??



...ONE OF OUR ATOMIC SUBMARINES, CAME ACROSS THE OPENING WHILE ON A RECONNAISSANCE PATROL...

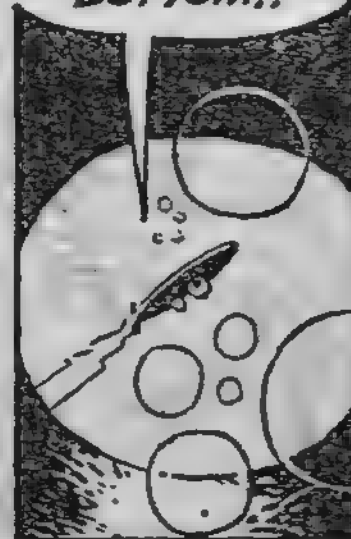
THIS IS THE THIRD PASS WE'VE MADE! IT'S DEFINITELY A HUGE CAVERN OR TUNNEL...

THEN THE INSTRUMENTS MUST BE FOULED UP!

NO-- THEY'RE WORKING PERFECTLY!



BUT THEY SHOW THE PIT HAS NO **BOTTOM!!**



I LEARNED OF ITS EXISTENCE AND IMMEDIATELY REALIZED THE OPPORTUNITY IT HELD!

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO DIG INTO THE EARTH TO ANY GREAT DEPTH BEFORE COMING TO A USELESS SOLID ROCK! BUT BENEATH THAT LAYER IS UNDREAMED OF MINERAL WEALTH-- **IN A PURE STATE!!** NO COSTLY REFINING OPERATIONS OR WASTE!

**GREAT SCOTT!! IT CAN BE DONE!**



THE FIRST MAN WHO GETS THERE AND STARTS MINING WILL BE UNDISPUTED MASTER OF THE INDUSTRIAL WORLD! **I AM GOING TO BE THAT MAN!!**



I HAD BUILT MY FORTUNE USING EVERY MEANS I KNEW! IT DIDN'T MATTER HOW MANY PEOPLE GOT HURT ON THE WAY AS LONG AS I GOT WHAT I WANTED! I APPLIED MY CODE TO THIS NEW UNDERTAKING!

BUT THAT RARE METAL WAS PRIORITY FOR NATIONAL DEFENSE INSTALLATIONS, MR. KEMPLET!

MY BATHYSPHERE HAS A MORE URGENT NEED FOR IT! DOCTOR THE REPORTS WILL SHOW IT GOT LOST IN SHIPPING!!





I HAD A BOAT AND CREW ALREADY  
STANDING BY! NOT ONE SECOND WAS  
LOST! WITH FAST EFFICIENT LOADING  
AND A SPEEDY GETTING UNDER WAY, I  
WAS SOON AT THE SPOT!

I'LL GO DOWN  
MYSELF! JUST  
STAND BY THE  
RADIO!

YES, SIR! PLEASE  
KEEP IN CONTACT  
WITH US REGULARLY!



I DROPPED INTO  
THE OCEAN AND  
DOWN THE PIT!!  
I WAS BEGINNING  
TO BELIEVE  
THAT MAYBE IT  
DIDN'T HAVE A  
BOTTOM!

I'M DOWN  
FURTHER THAN  
ANY LIVING  
MAN HAS EVER  
BEEN! AND  
STILL NO...  
WAIT... THERE'S  
SOMETHING  
BELOW...



AND YOU  
FOUND  
OUR  
WORLD!

YES! BUT WHAT OF YOU AND  
YOUR PEOPLE?? WHO ARE  
YOU? WHERE ARE YOU  
FROM? WHAT HAVE I  
STUMBLED INTO?



**HEE! HEE! HEE!**

OURS IS A STORY YOU WILL  
FIND EVEN HARDER TO  
BELIEVE THAN OUR EXIST-  
ENCE IN THIS PLACE!



WE ROAMED THE UPPER WORLD FREELY MANY AGES AGO! OURS  
WAS A CAREFREE LIFE, DEVOTED ONLY TO OUR OWN AMUSEMENT!  
WE CARED NOT FOR OTHERS!

KLOTO! THE MAGIC ONE  
COMES! HE IS VERY  
ANGRY!!

HE IS ALWAYS ANGRY  
AND FOREVER SPOILING  
OUR SPORT!



KLOTO! YOU HAVE CARRIED YOUR  
PRANKS TOO FAR! RETURN THE  
SACRED BALL YOU HAVE TAKEN!  
IT PROTECTS US FROM THE SEA!

I KNOW NOTHING  
OF WHAT YOU  
SPEAK!!



DO NOT PRETEND WITH ME!  
RETURN IT AT ONCE!  
BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE  
AND THE ANGRY WATERS  
CLAIM OUR CITY!!



WHAT SHALL WE  
DO, KLOTO? I  
HAVE NEVER  
SEEN HIM SO  
ANGRY!!

WE SHALL  
DO AS WE  
PLEASE!  
COME!



SLOWLY THE SEA CREEPT  
OVER THE LAND! THE  
POWER THAT HELD IT  
BACK WAS GONE...!!

WILL IT BE  
RETURNED IN  
TIME TO SAVE  
THE CITY??

I FEAR  
NOT--WE  
MUST  
FLEE!

...WE HAD STOLEN THE  
SACRED BALL TO AMUSE  
OURSELVES! WE CARED  
NAUGHT FOR THE LAND  
ITS MAGIC PROTECTED--  
THE LAND KNOWN AS  
**ATLANTIS!!!**

WHAT DO WE CARE OF  
CITIES OR PEOPLE!!  
WE DO AS WE PLEASE!

BUT AS ALWAYS!

**STOP!**

MY WARNINGS HAVE BEEN  
IGNORED FOR THE LAST TIME!  
YOU GREMLINS AND LEPRE-  
CHAUNS HAVE GONE TOO FAR!  
YOU HAVE NO REGARD FOR  
ANYBODY BUT YOURSELVES--  
**YOU SHALL BE  
BANISHED...**

WE CANNOT  
ESCAPE HIM!

NEVER HAVE WE SEEN SUCH  
MAGIC! THE POWERS HE COULD  
WEAVE FROZE US IN FEAR!

**...TO THE DEEPEST HOLE  
IN THIS EARTH!**

EVEN AS WE FELT OURSELVES  
BEING TRANSPORTED INTO EXILE,  
WE SAW OUR FATE! THE SEA  
ROLLED OVER THE LAND AND  
CLAIMED ATLANTIS! THE EARTH  
ROARED-- BROKE UP-- THEN  
SETTLED IN THE SEA...

OH, NO! IT'S TOO LATE!!  
IT'S USELESS TO TURN THE  
WATERS BACK, NOW!! ATLANTIS  
WILL BE DESTROYED! NO  
MORE WILL THE ART OF  
MAGIC EXIST ON EARTH!



WE HAVE LONGED TO GET BACK TO THE UPPER WORLD! YOU HAVE BROUGHT US THE MEANS TO DO SO! WE WILL REWARD YOU WELL IF YOU HELP US! WE WILL MAKE YOU RULER OVER THE OTHER MORTALS!

THESE ARE THE PEOPLE THE LEGENDS OF GREMLINS AND ELFS GREW FROM! THEY COULD MAKE ME RICH AND POWERFUL!!

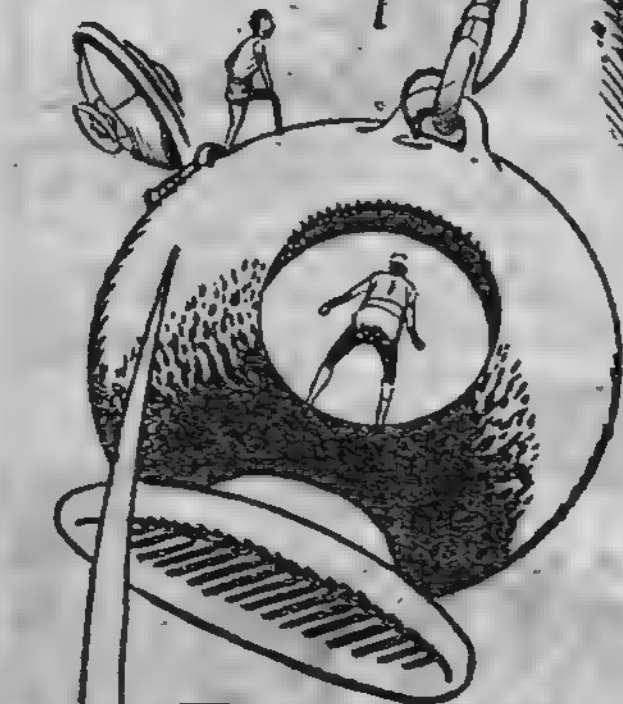
I AGREE!! I WILL HELP YOU!!

YOU HAVE MADE A WISE DECISION!

ONCE THESE CREATURES REACH THE SURFACE, THEY COULD WREAK HAVOC WITH MANKIND! IS WEALTH AND POWER SO IMPORTANT TO ME THAT I CAN JEOPARDIZE THE FATE OF ALL HUMANITY?

MY BODY ACHES FROM BEING CRAMPED IN HERE FOR SO LONG! I WOULD LIKE TO GET OUT FOR A STRETCH!

IT CAN BE ARRANGED! IT WILL ALSO GIVE US THE OPPORTUNITY TO CELEBRATE OUR RETURNING!



OUR POWERS ARE USELESS DOWN HERE, AS THE SAGE OF ATLANTIS WELL KNEW! BUT ONCE ON THE SURFACE AGAIN, WE WILL RULE SUPREME! NONE CAN DEFY US!

I'LL FIX THE CONTROLS! WE MUST SEAL THE HATCH! THIS ATMOSPHERE MAY DESTROY THE DELICATE WIRING!

AS YOU THINK BEST!

A SHORT TIME LATER--AS THEY CARRIED SERGE TO THE GROUND!



YES! I DID IT! I HAVE BEEN GREEDY AND SELFISH ALL MY LIFE! THE POWER AND GLORY YOU PROMISED ME WAS A GREAT TEMPTATION! BUT I COULDN'T DO IT! I KNOW I'M DESTINED FOR ETERNAL EXILE DOWN HERE NOW, BUT IT WILL BE WORTH IT, KNOWING I'VE DONE ONE UN-SELFISH THING IN MY LIFE!

BUT SERGE DIDN'T REALIZE, HIS RADIO WAS TURNED ON! AND ALL THAT WAS SAID WAS HEARD ABOARD SHIP!

THAT WAS AN EXPLOSION!

THAT CONTROL HE SET-- HE INCREASED THE AIR PRESSURE IN THE BATHYSPHERE AND DELIBERATELY BLEW IT UP!

HE SACRIFICED HIMSELF TO KEEP THOSE CREATURES DOWN THERE WHERE THEY BELONG!!

ONCE THE WORLD LEARNS WHAT MR. KEMPLET DID, THEY'LL FIND SOME WAY TO RESCUE HIM!

WE'LL NEVER REST UNTIL HE'S SAVED!



WE THOUGHT HE WAS MAD... THAT HIS MIND WAS AS DISABLED AS HIS BODY... WE DIDN'T KNOW ...WE COULD NEVER EVEN HAVE IMAGINED THE FANTASTIC SECRET LINK THAT EXISTED BETWEEN HIM AND...

"THE  
WORLD  
THAT WAS  
LOST!"

I'VE CALLED YOU HERE, CAPTAIN JORDAN, BECAUSE I WOULD LIKE TO CHARTER YOUR YACHT FOR APPROXIMATELY A MONTH! AND, IF IT'S AGREEABLE TO YOU, I'D WANT YOU AND YOUR CREW TO REMAIN ON IT-- TO TAKE ME WHERE I WISH TO GO!

I SEE NO REASON WHY THAT COULDN'T BE ARRANGED! HOWEVER, IT WILL COST YOU QUITE A BIT!

EVEN FROM THE FIRST, WHEN I SAT IN LINUS VERMEER'S STUDY AND LISTENED TO WHY I'D BEEN SUMMONED, I FELT THERE WAS SOMETHING STRANGE ABOUT THIS BALD-HEADED, SOFT-SPOKEN, MILD MAN... SOMETHING THAT DIDN'T QUITE FIT... I THINK IT WAS THE LOOK IN HIS EYES-- A LOOK THAT GAVE PROMISE OF FATEFUL THINGS TO COME... OF AN INCREDIBLE DESTINY SOON TO BE REALIZED...

T-226

MONEY IS NO OBJECT, CAPTAIN! I AM A VERY WEALTHY MAN AND THIS VOYAGE IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO ME!

I SEE... THEN I'M SURE WE CAN COME TO TERMS!

MAY I ASK, SIR, WHERE IT IS WE'LL BE SAILING?

YOU MAY, CAPTAIN! WE'LL BE SAILING ABOUT 1000 MILES SOUTHEAST OF HERE... AND WE'LL BE LOOKING FOR THE LOST CONTINENT OF ATLANTIS!



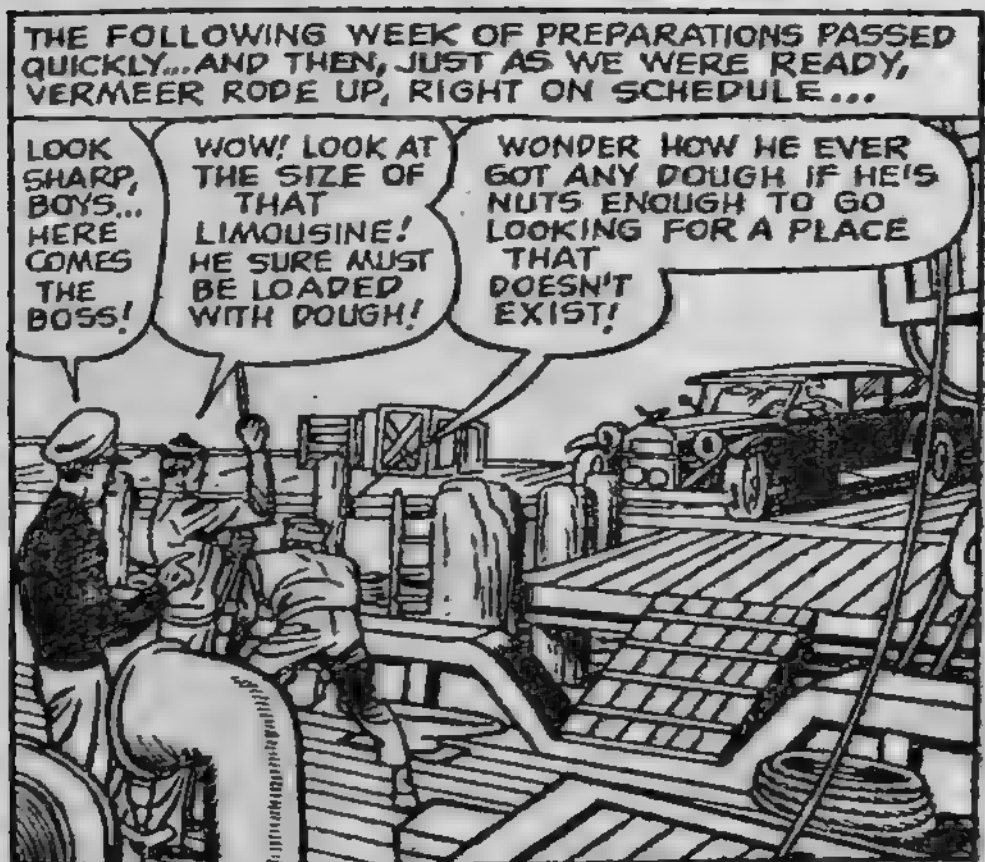


DID YOU SAY THE LOST CONTINENT OF ATLANTIS? BUT THAT'S ONLY A LEGEND! THERE'S NO SUCH PLACE AS ATLANTIS!



NO, CAPTAIN--MOST PEOPLE THINK THERE'S NO SUCH PLACE AS ATLANTIS! BUT I KNOW THAT WITHIN THE DEPTHS OF THE SEA, THE CONTINENT OF ATLANTIS DOES EXIST! YOU AND YOUR CREW WILL BE PAID IN ADVANCE, SO THE SUCCESS OR FAILURE OF OUR VOYAGE WILL AFFECT ONLY ME!

VERY WELL, MR. VERMEER... AS YOU SAY!



THE FOLLOWING WEEK OF PREPARATIONS PASSED QUICKLY...AND THEN, JUST AS WE WERE READY, VERMEER RODE UP, RIGHT ON SCHEDULE...

LOOK SHARP, BOYS... HERE COMES THE BOSS!

WOW! LOOK AT THE SIZE OF THAT LIMOUSINE! HE SURE MUST BE LOADED WITH DOUGH!

WONDER HOW HE EVER GOT ANY DOUGH IF HE'S NUTS ENOUGH TO GO LOOKING FOR A PLACE THAT DOESN'T EXIST!



GOOD MORNING, CAPTAIN! FINE DAY FOR SAILING, ISN'T IT?

YES IT IS, SIR! AND WE'RE ALL READY TO SET SAIL!



EXCELLENT, CAPTAIN--EXCELLENT! I WANT TO REACH THE AREA OF ATLANTIS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE!

THIS GUY VERMEER IS AS MAD AS A HATTER!

YEAH! IT'S A GOOD THING WE ALL GOT PAID IN ADVANCE...A NUT LIKE HIM COULD CHANGE HIS MIND ABOUT PAYING US!



AND SO WE SET SAIL...FOR AN IMPOSSIBLE DESTINATION--THE LOST CONTINENT OF ATLANTIS!

REMEMBER, CAPTAIN--YOU PROMISED TO FIND THE EXACT SPOT FOR ME--WHETHER YOU BELIEVE IT EXISTS OR NOT!

FROM THE VERY BEGINNING, WE COULD ALL SEE THAT VERMEER, IN HIS MILD UNASSUMING WAY, WAS IN COMPLETE CHARGE OF THE SHIP...

I THINK, CAPTAIN, THAT WE SHOULD START TO HEAD SOUTHEAST FOR ABOUT 70 MILES... AND THEN GO EAST SOUTHEAST FOR ANOTHER 50...

VERY WELL, MR. VERMEER... SOUTH SOUTHEAST IT IS!



AS THE DAYS SPED BY, VERMEER INCREASINGLY BECAME A TOPIC FOR RIDICULE AMONG THE MEN OF THE CREW...

...AND THIS GUY VERMEER EVEN LOOKS FUNNY!

YEAH-- I KNOW WHAT YA MEAN! THAT COMPLETELY BALD HEAD... AND THOSE POINTED EARS... AND THAT FUNNY LOOK THAT HIS EYES SOMETIMES HAVE... IT'S ENOUGH TO MAKE YA BREAK OUT LAUGHIN'!



AS FOR MY OPINION OF VERMEER, WELL-- I WAS BEGINNING TO DEVELOP AN UNEXPLAINABLE RESPECT FOR THIS STRANGE LITTLE MAN-- A FEELING THAT HE WASN'T AS MAD AS HE SEEMED...

TELL ME, CAPTAIN, HOW DOES THE CREW FEEL ABOUT THIS VOYAGE?

THEY THINK IT'S -- AH, STRANGE TO LOOK FOR A PLACE WHICH EXISTS ONLY IN LEGEND! BUT I'M SURE THAT YOU HAVE YOUR OWN REASONS FOR THIS SEARCH, SIR!

I DO, CAPTAIN! ...I DO!



MAYBE THAT'S HIS LOST CONTINENT! HA HA HA!

NOT SO LOUD-- VERMEER'S LIABLE TO HEAR YOU!

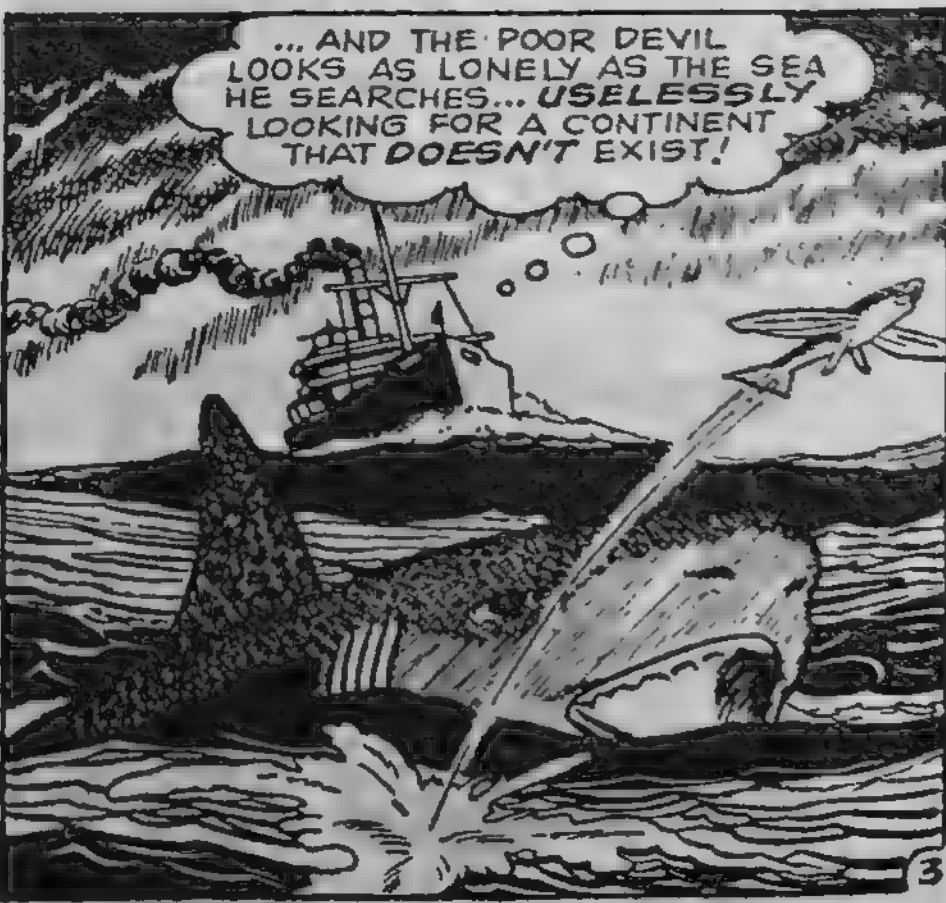


THE VOYAGE CONTINUED... AND DAY AFTER DAY VERMEER, WHEN HE WASN'T DIRECTING OUR COURSE, SAT AT THE BOW-- GAZING ACROSS THE VAST REACHES OF OCEAN...

HE CONSTANTLY SITS THERE-- STARING LONGINGLY AT THE SEA...



... AND THE POOR DEVIL LOOKS AS LONELY AS THE SEA HE SEARCHES... USELESSLY LOOKING FOR A CONTINENT THAT DOESN'T EXIST!





DAYS PASSED INTO WEEKS, AND FINALLY, IT WAS THE BEGINNING OF OUR FOURTH WEEK AT SEA -- AND THE RIDICULOUSNESS OF OUR VOYAGE WAS STARTING TO ANNOY THE CREW...

CAPTAIN, HOW LONG ARE WE GONNA KEEP ON WITH THIS FOOL VOYAGE? EVEN WHEN HE'S WELL PAID FOR IT, A MAN CAN TAKE ONLY SO MUCH OF AN IDIOTIC THING!

IT WON'T LAST MUCH LONGER--MR. VERMEER HIRED US FOR ONLY A MONTH!



THEN SUDDENLY--FROM THE FRONT OF THE SHIP--CAME AN EXCITED CRY...

CAPTAIN! IT'S HERE! THE LOST CONTINENT OF ATLANTIS STARTS AT THIS SPOT-- 250 LEAGUES BENEATH THE SEA'S SURFACE!



THE GUY'S EVEN NUTTIER THAN WE THOUGHT!

HOW DO YOU KNOW ATLANTIS IS LOCATED RIGHT HERE, SIR?

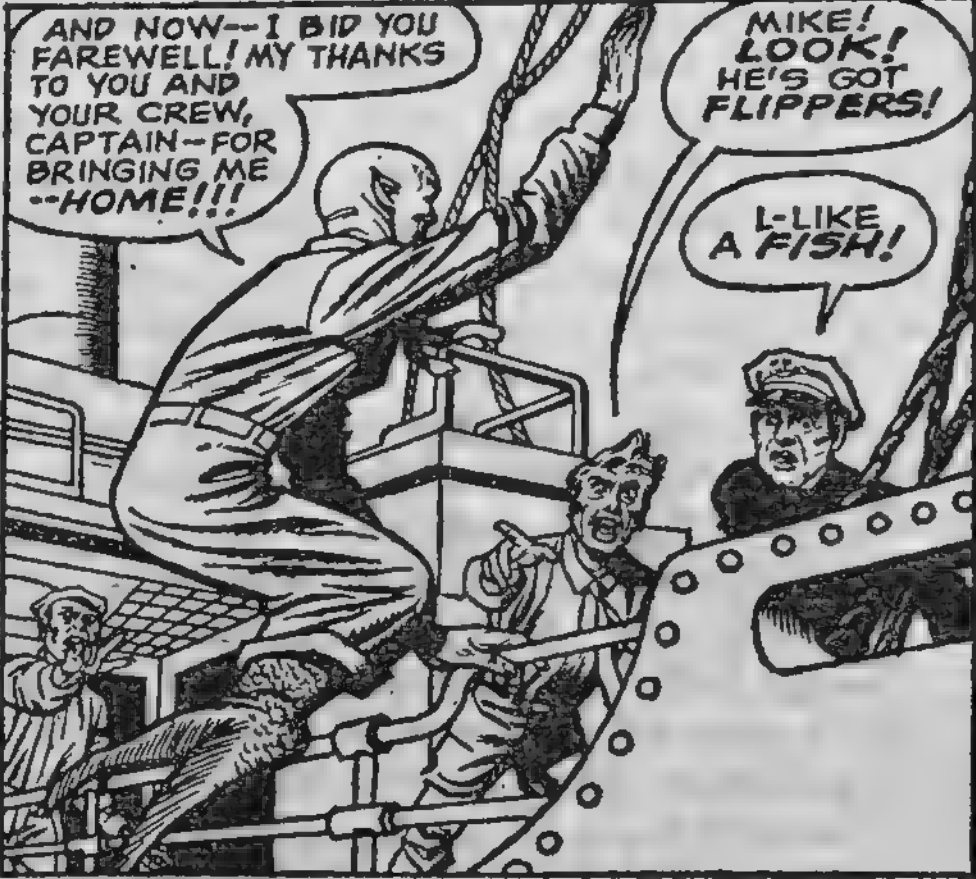
I CAN FEEL IT, CAPTAIN! EVERY FIBER OF MY BEING TELLS ME IT'S HERE!



AND NOW--I BID YOU FAREWELL! MY THANKS TO YOU AND YOUR CREW, CAPTAIN--FOR BRINGING ME --HOME!!!

MIKE! LOOK! HE'S GOT FLIPPERS!

I-LIKE A FISH!



HE'S HEADIN' FOR THE DEPTHS!

LOOK AT HIM CUT INTO THAT WATER! LOOK AT THAT DIVE!

PART MAN AND PART FISH! IT-- IT AIN'T POSSIBLE!! AND YET...



NO SUCH THING, HUH? THEN WHAT WAS VERMEER?

MATEY, I'D BE AFRAID TO TRY TO ANSWER THAT!

WE CAN ONLY GUESS! BUT I KNOW ONE THING--SOMEWHERE IN THE DEPTHS BELOW, FURTHER THAN ANY HUMAN CAN DESCEND, IS A MYSTERY BEYOND BELIEF!



AND AS THE SEA CLOSED OVER THE SPOT WHERE LINUS VERMEER HAD PLUNGED INTO THE OCEAN DEPTHS, I KNEW THAT MY CREW AND I WOULD NEVER AGAIN RIDICULE THINGS WE DIDN'T UNDERSTAND!

**THE END**

THEY WERE THE SUPERIOR LIFE FORM OF THE UNIVERSE...AND THEY CROSSED THE ALMOST INFINITE VOID OF SPACE AND TIME, IN THEIR SEARCH FOR A PLANET TO COLONIZE... FINALLY, THEY CHOSE ONE... IT WAS A SPINNING WATER-OXYGEN WORLD... IT WAS THE PLANET, EARTH!

# EARTH IN CHAINS!

IT HAPPENED IN 1960  
...THE QUIET OF  
A SUMMER'S DAY ON  
EARTH WAS SUDDENLY  
SHATTERED BY THE  
MECHANICAL WHIRRING  
AND METALLIC SCREAM-  
ING OF A FLEET OF  
ALIEN SPACE SHIPS!...



LOOK!  
SPACE SHIPS!  
HUNDREDS OF  
'EM!!

WHERE COULD  
THEY HAVE COME  
FROM?!!

MAYBE  
THEY'RE  
COMMIE  
ROCKET  
SHIPS!

MAN--NOBODY  
ON THIS PLANET  
COULD'VE BUILT ANY-  
THING LIKE THAT!  
THOSE SHIPS MUST'VE  
COME FROM OUTER  
SPACE!

THEY COME FROM  
ANOTHER PLANET OF  
OUR SOLAR SYSTEM--  
OR MAYBE... THEY  
EVEN COME FROM  
THE STARS!

WELL, WHEREVER  
THEY'RE FROM--THEY  
BETTER NOT BE LOOKIN'  
FOR TROUBLE! WE AIN'T  
GONNA BE PUSHED  
AROUND BY NO  
BUG-EYED MONSTERS!

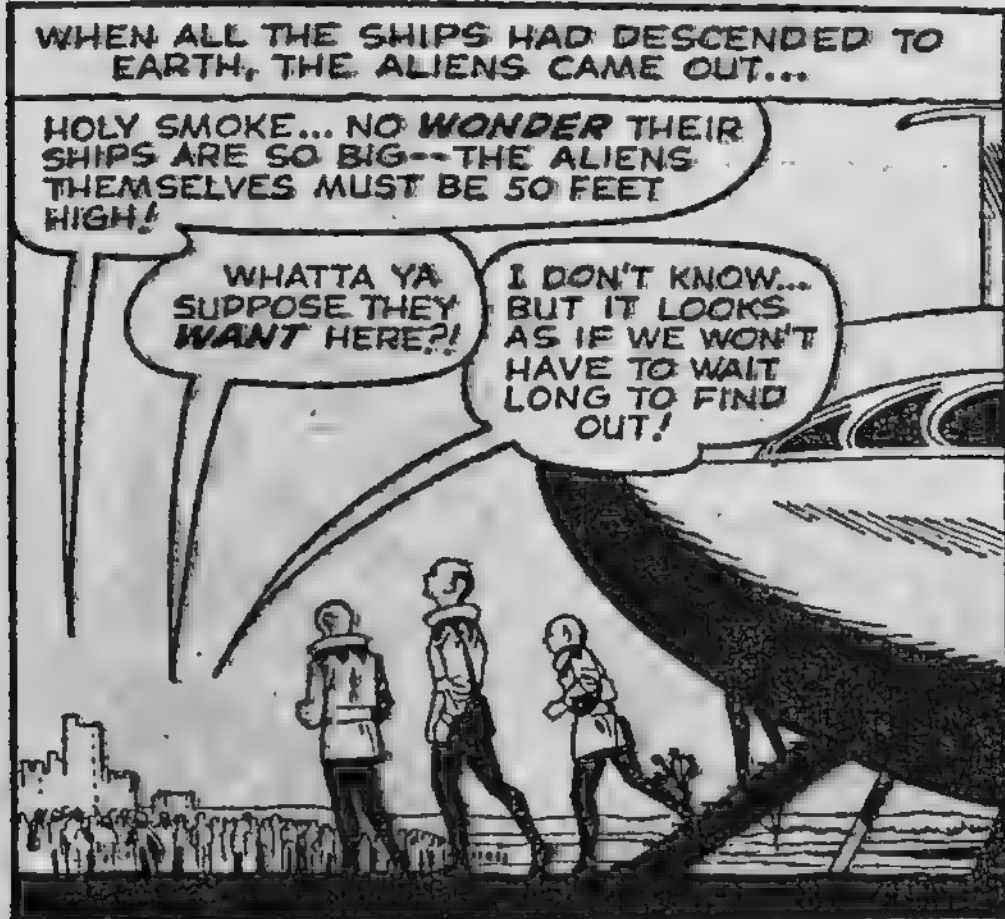




FOR AWHILE, THE GIANT SPACECRAFT HOVERED ABOVE EARTH... THEN, EACH, IN TURN, LANDED...

BOY!--LOOK AT THE SIZE OF THAT SHIP! IT'S UNBELIEVABLE!

MAN! THEY'RE LIKE FLYING BUILDINGS! HOW DO THEY EVER GET 'EM INTO THE AIR?

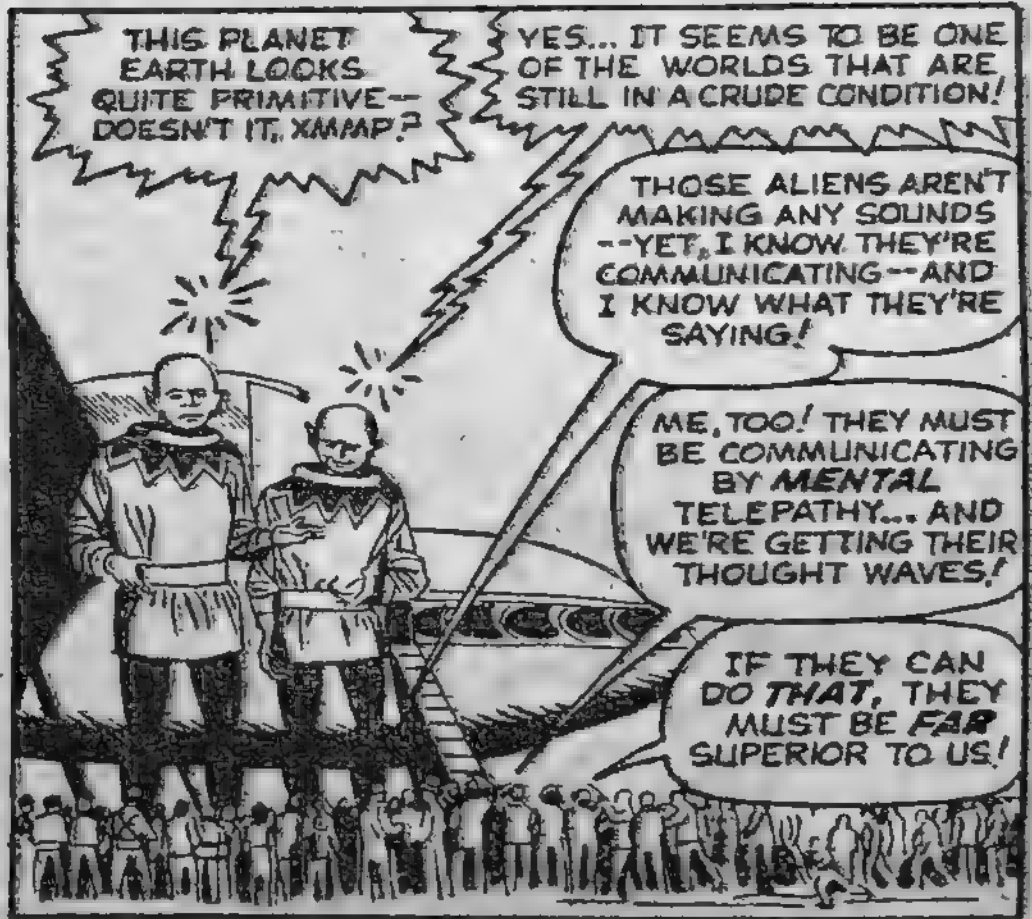


WHEN ALL THE SHIPS HAD DESCENDED TO EARTH, THE ALIENS CAME OUT...

HOLY SMOKE... NO WONDER THEIR SHIPS ARE SO BIG--THE ALIENS THEMSELVES MUST BE 50 FEET HIGH!

WHATTA YA SUPPOSE THEY WANT HERE?!

I DON'T KNOW... BUT IT LOOKS AS IF WE WON'T HAVE TO WAIT LONG TO FIND OUT!



THIS PLANET EARTH LOOKS QUITE PRIMITIVE-- DOESN'T IT, XAMP?

YES... IT SEEMS TO BE ONE OF THE WORLDS THAT ARE STILL IN A CRUDE CONDITION!

THOSE ALIENS AREN'T MAKING ANY SOUNDS --YET, I KNOW THEY'RE COMMUNICATING--AND I KNOW WHAT THEY'RE SAYING!

ME, TOO! THEY MUST BE COMMUNICATING BY MENTAL TELEPATHY... AND WE'RE GETTING THEIR THOUGHT WAVES!

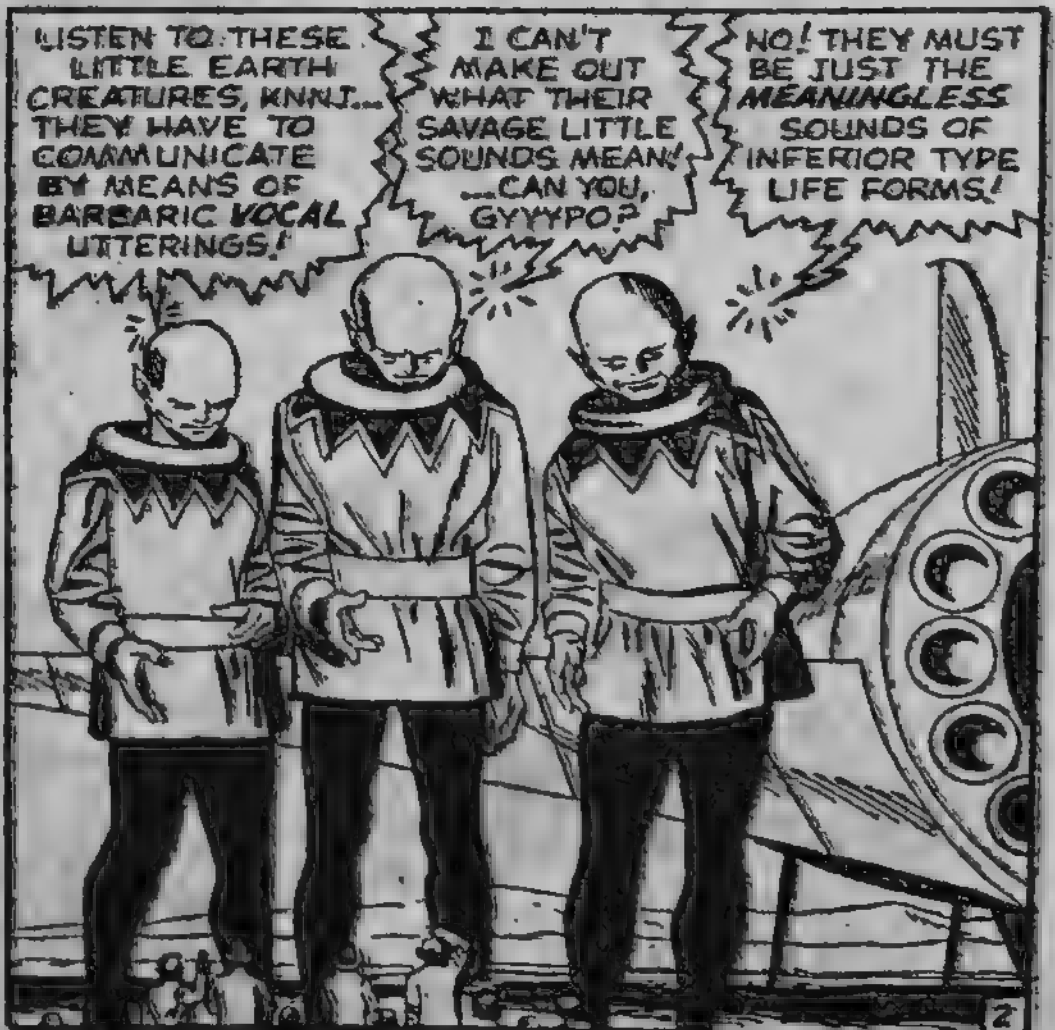
IF THEY CAN DO THAT, THEY MUST BE FAR SUPERIOR TO US!



LET'S TRY TO TALK TO THEM ...AND FIND OUT WHY THEY CAME HERE!

WHO ARE YOU? WHERE DO YOU COME FROM?

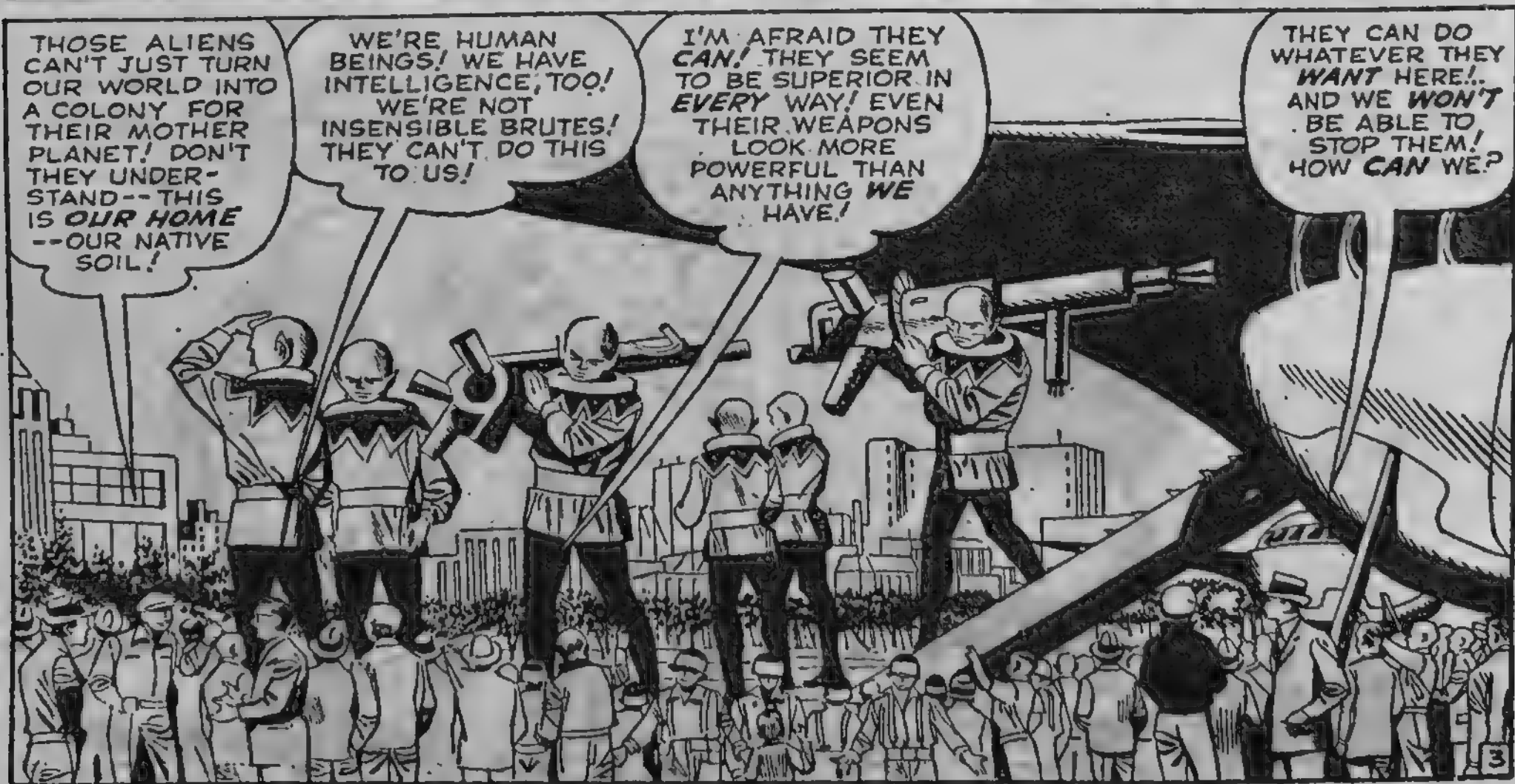
WHY HAVE YOU COME TO EARTH?



LISTEN TO THESE LITTLE EARTH CREATURES, KNNJ... THEY HAVE TO COMMUNICATE BY MEANS OF BARBARIC VOCAL UTTERINGS!

I CAN'T MAKE OUT WHAT THEIR SAVAGE LITTLE SOUNDS MEAN! ...CAN YOU, GYYPO?

NO! THEY MUST BE JUST THE MEANINGLESS SOUNDS OF INFERIOR TYPE LIFE FORMS!





WITHIN A WEEK AFTER THEY HAD LANDED, THE ALIENS SELECTED A SITE FOR THE CAPITAL OF REGULUS *MINOR*--AS EARTH WAS NOW CALLED...

THAT UGLY CITY IS IN A GOOD SPOT FOR OUR CAPITAL!

WE'LL GET THE EARTH CREATURES OUT OF THE CITY! THEN WE'LL **DISINTEGRATE** IT...AND ERECT OUR CAPITAL!



WITHOUT ANY QUALMS, THE ALIENS PROCEEDED TO **EMPTY** THE CITY OF ITS INHABITANTS...

BUT WE'VE LIVED IN THIS CITY ALL OUR LIVES! YOU'VE GOT NO RIGHT--

SHOO-- HURRY UP-- LITTLE CREATURES!

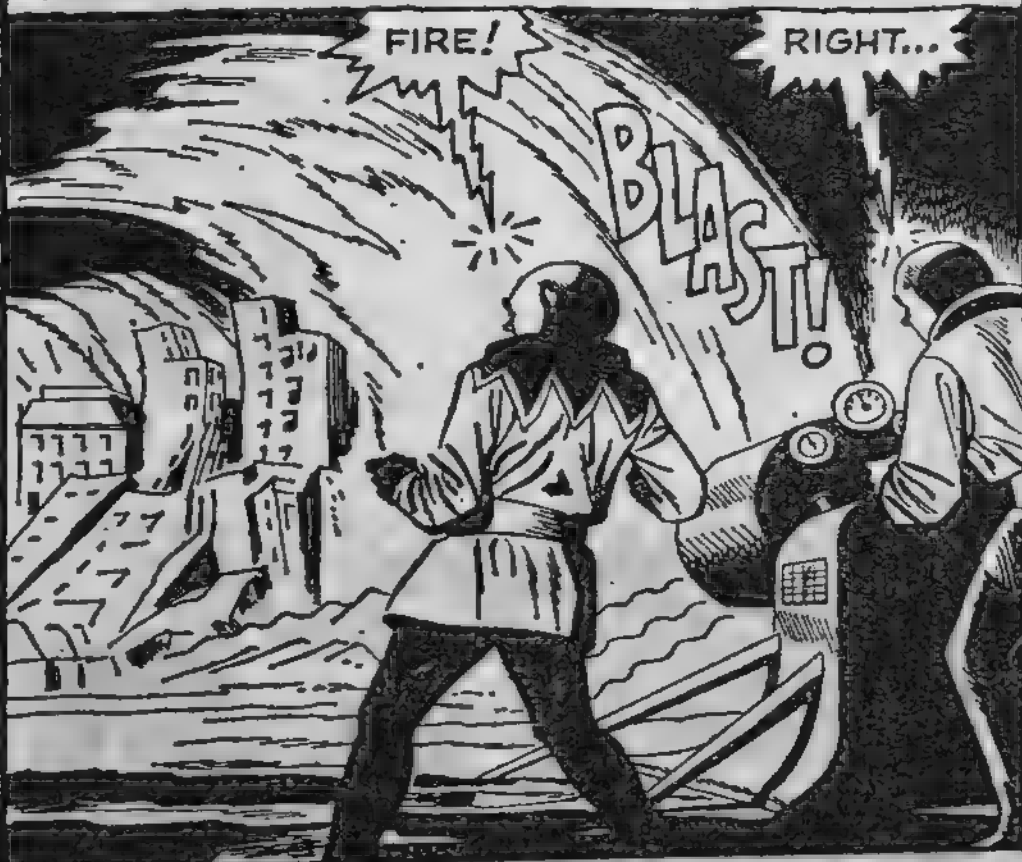
GO--LITTLE EARTHLINGS! YOU MUST LEAVE HERE! FIND SHELTER ELSEWHERE!



WHEN THE CITY WAS EMPTY, THE ALIENS TRAINED A DISINTEGRATING MACHINE ON IT!

FIRE!

RIGHT...



AH, GOOD!... THE HIDEOUS THING IS **GONE**!

WHAT A GREAT IMPROVEMENT!

NOW WE CAN START TO BUILD **OUR** CITY!



THE ALIENS SOON SET ABOUT ERECTING AN **ELECTRO-MAGNETIC FORCE FIELD** CITY...BEFORE THE INCREDULOUS EYES OF HUNDREDS OF EARTHMEN...

I SEE IT-- BUT I DON'T BELIEVE IT!...

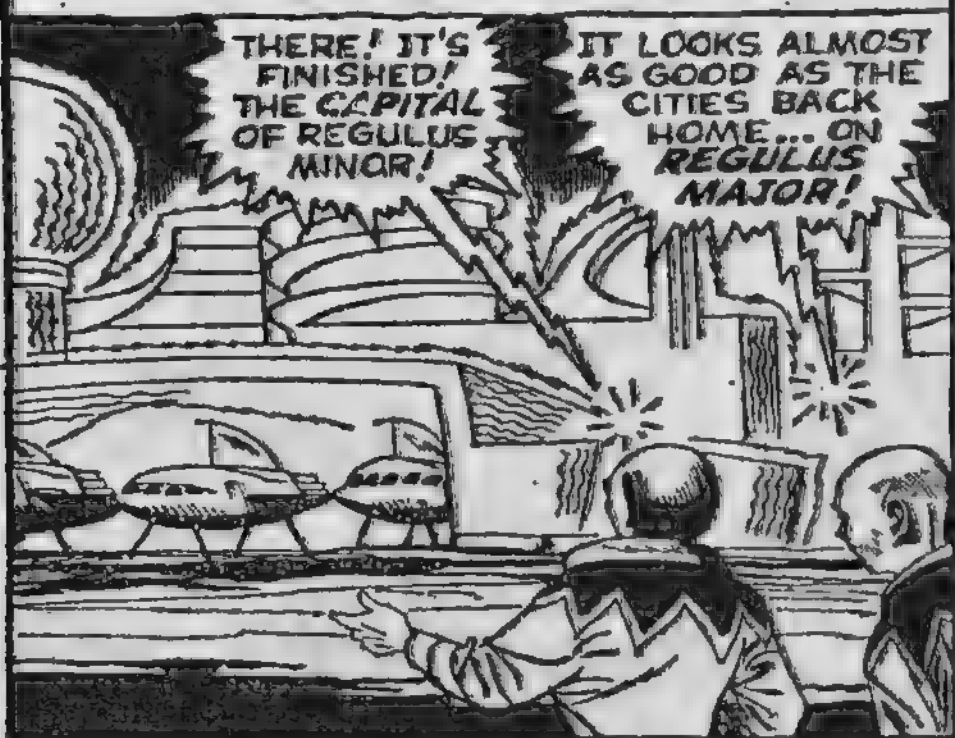
IT ALL SEEMS TO HAVE SPRUNG UP OVER-NIGHT!

THESE ALIENS MUST BE THE **MOST ADVANCED** CREATURES IN THE UNIVERSE!

WE'LL **NEVER** BE ABLE TO MAKE THEM GET OFF OUR PLANET! THEY MUST HAVE UNLIMITED POWER!



IT WAS NOT LONG BEFORE THE ALIEN CITY WAS COMPLETED...



THERE! IT'S FINISHED! THE CAPITAL OF REGULUS MINOR!

IT LOOKS ALMOST AS GOOD AS THE CITIES BACK HOME... ON REGULUS MAJOR!

FOR THE NEXT FEW MONTHS, THE ALIENS MADE VARIOUS **SCIENTIFIC** STUDIES OF THE PLANET EARTH... THE RESULTS WERE SENT TO THE MOTHER PLANET!



HMMM...THE DENSITY OF MATTER ON THIS PLANET VARIES MORE THAN WAS INDICATED!

THERE ARE SEVERAL DEVIATIONS FROM WHAT WE EXPECTED... BUT ALL IN ALL THIS WORLD IS VERY **SUITABLE** FOR US!

THEN, ONE DAY IT STARTED TO HAPPEN...

OUR SCIENTISTS ARE GETTING A LOT OF USEFUL INFORMATION FROM THEIR STUDIES OF THESE EARTHLING CROPS!

THIS IS (SOB) HORRIBLE! THOSE ALIENS JUST TAKE AND DO WHATEVER THEY WANT!

OHH...

I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH MORE OF THIS WE CAN STAND! I--LOOK!... ONE OF THE ALIENS-- HE SEEMS ILL!



WHAT'S THE MATTER, TFFDEH??

I DON'T KNOW! I...FEEL KIND OF PECULIAR... LIKE I'M SICK!

ME, TOO...! I'M STARTING TO FEEL STRANGE, ALSO!



BY THE TIME AN EMERGENCY COUNCIL MEETING WAS HELD, ALMOST ONE FOURTH OF THE ALIENS HAD TAKEN ILL...

WE'VE MADE A HORRIBLE MISTAKE! WE **KNEW** THIS PLANET WAS PRIMITIVE... BUT WE DIDN'T KNOW IT WAS **SO** PRIMITIVE... THAT IT WOULD STILL CONTAIN **GERMS!**... WE'LL HAVE TO **LEAVE** THIS MICROBE-INFESTED WORLD IMMEDIATELY!

THE ONE THING WE CANNOT DEFEND OURSELVES AGAINST IS DISEASE GERMS! OUR BODIES CAN'T FIGHT THEM OFF!

WE HAVE NO RESISTANCE TO GERMS! THEY'RE TOTALLY ALIEN TO OUR CULTURE!



TAKING THEIR MOUNTING SICK WITH THEM, THE ALIENS NONE TOO SOON LEFT THE PLANET EARTH...

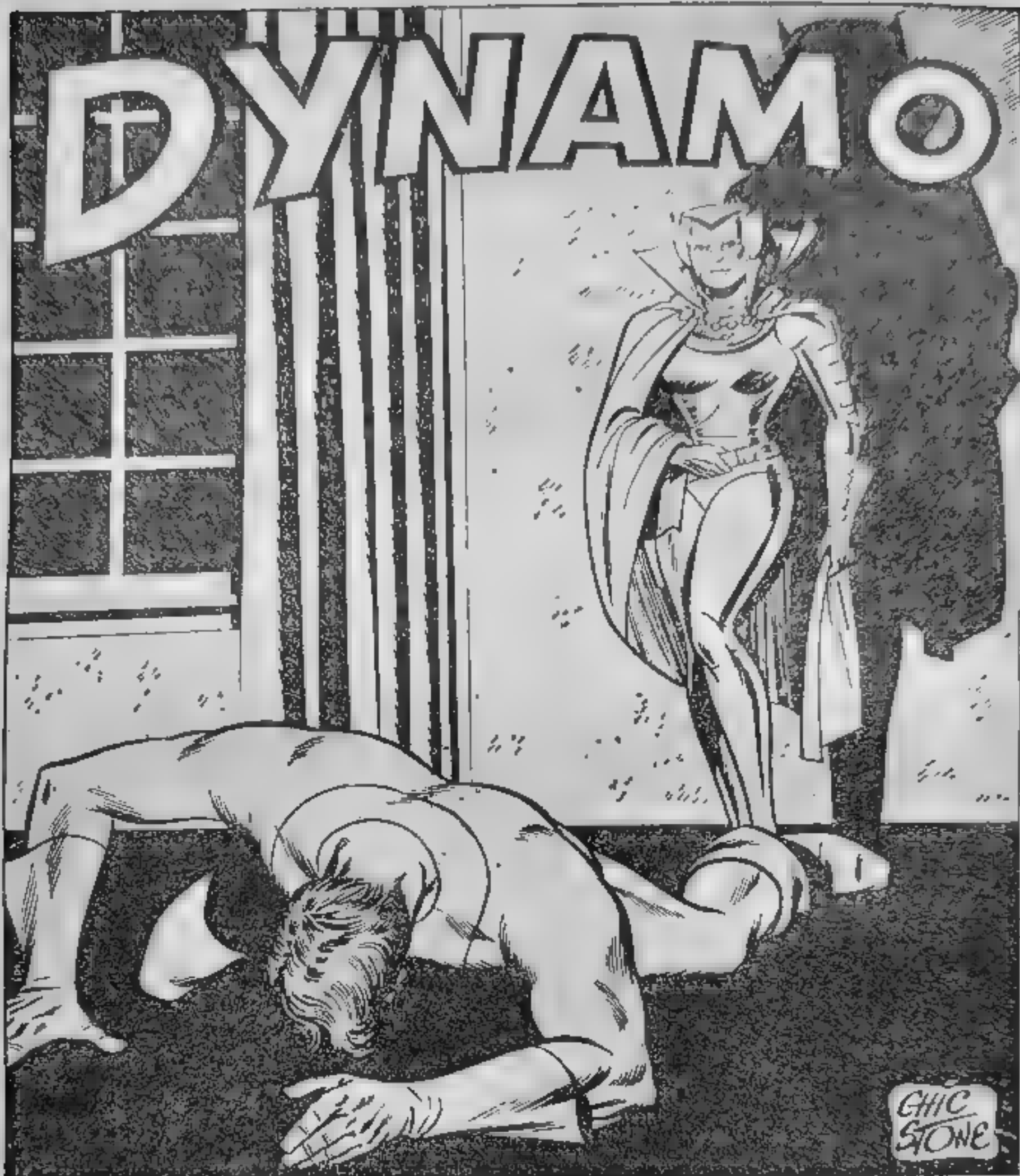


THERE THEY GO! AND GOOD RIDDANCE TO 'EM!

THEY WERE THE MIGHTIEST CREATURES IN THE UNIVERSE!... BUT THEY HAD NO DEFENSE AGAINST THE **SMALLEST** OF CREATURES-- **GERMS!**

AND NOW, OUR PLANET ONCE AGAIN BELONGS TO US! WE, WHO ARE OF THIS PLANET... AND ARE **MOST** SUITED TO LIVE ON THIS PLANET!

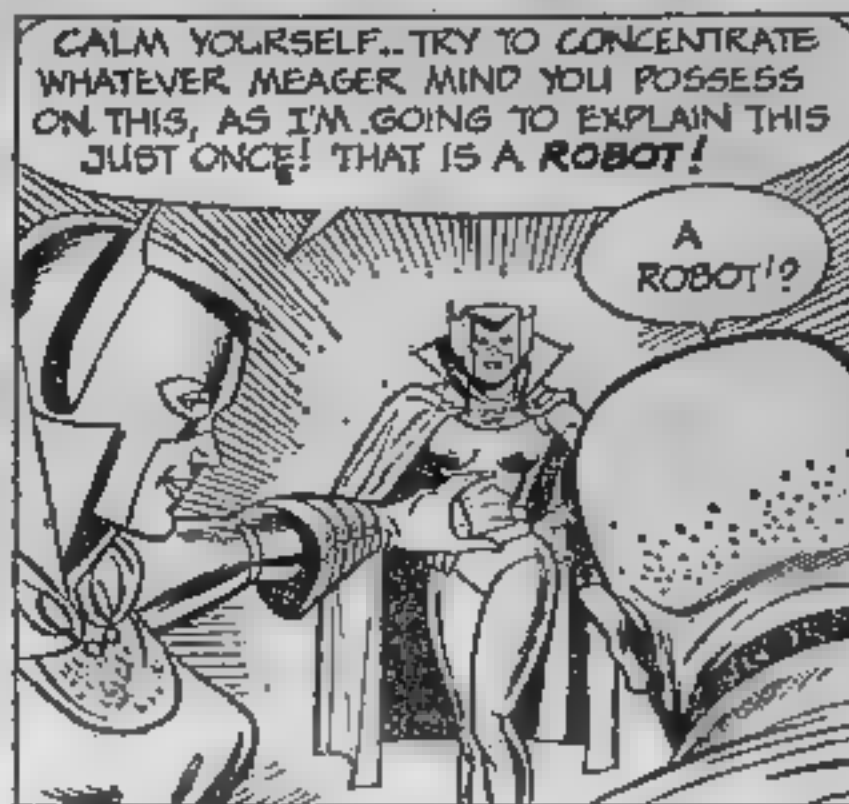




LET US SUPPOSE, JUST FOR A MOMENT, THAT SOMEHOW SOMEONE INVENTED A DEVICE THAT COULD REVERSE THE EFFECT OF THE "THUNDERBELT"... INSTEAD OF THE INCREASE IN POWER, THERE WOULD BE A CORRESPONDING LOSS, A DRAIN ON LEN BROWN'S NORMAL STRENGTH, AND INSTEAD OF TURNING HIM INTO "DYNAMO" THE BELT WOULD TRANSFORM HIM INTO...

the **WEAKEST MAN** in the **WORLD!**

AT THE IRON MAIDEN'S LAIR...





AT THUNDER HEADQUARTERS..



HOPE THE CHIEF DOESN'T FIND OUT HOW LATE I CAME IN THIS MORNING, OR HE'LL...

**BROWN!** WOULD YOU STEP INTO MY OFFICE FOR A MINUTE?



OH OH!

CHIEF, I COULDN'T HELP IT.. MY ALARM CLOCK..

WHAT ARE YOU ~~BABBLING~~ ABOUT, BROWN? I WANT YOU TO MEET MY DAUGHTER ROXANNE..



HUH? I MEAN, HOW DO YOU DO.. ER.. THAT IS.. **HELLO!**

HELLO.. MY FRIENDS CALL ME **BUNNY**..

CHIEF I HAVE THE... **WELL!** IF I'M INTERRUPTING ANYTHING..

**WOW!**



NO.. COME ON IN, ALICE! I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET MY DAUGHTER.. SHE'LL BE WORKING WITH US FROM NOW..

HOW NICE! ISN'T THAT NICE, **LEN DARLING?**

"BUNNY", HUH? THAT SHE-WOLF HAS GOT HER EYE ON MY **LEN** ALREADY!



MY, WHAT A PRETTY DRESS! I DIDN'T KNOW THEY WERE BACK IN STYLE... AFTER ALL THESE YEARS!

OH, YES! YOU MUST GET ONE THEY'RE QUITE THE THING TO WEAR WITH **WIGS!**

ALICE IS JEALOUS! SHE REALLY DOES LIKE ME MORE THAN SHE LETS ON!

ER.. GIRLS.. I'M SURE YOU'RE GOING TO BE GREAT FRIENDS.. NOW RUN ALONG AND LET ME GET SOME WORK DONE..



HERE'S MY CHANCE TO MAKE MY EXIT TOO..

**STICK AROUND, BROWN!** NOW, WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT YOUR ALARM CLOCK?



WELL, YOU SEE, SIR... **ATTENTION! ALL AGENTS! EMERGENCY!** AN ARTIFICIAL MIST...OR FOG... SPREADING OVER ENTIRE DOWNTOWN AREA...



WHEW! SAVED BY THE BELL! **FOG? IT COULD BE THE IRON MAIDEN'S METALLIC FOG - GET GOING! I'LL KEEP IN RADIO CONTACT!**



I'M NEARLY THERE, CHIEF! I CAN SEE THE MIST FROM HERE! ANY FURTHER REPORTS? YES.. OUR MAGNETIC FINDER IS DISRUPTED. IT'S THE **IRON FOG** ALL RIGHT!



OKAY, CH'EF..GOING IN NOW! SOMETHING AHEAD... A FIGURE.. IT'S..



IT'S **HER! THE IRON MAIDEN!** HELLO, RUSTY... I KINDA' FIGURED YOU WERE BEHIND ALL THIS, WHATEVER IT IS...



WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO ALL THIS FOR, ANYWAY? YOU KNOW YOU CAN'T WIN AGAINST THE FORCES OF LAW AND ORDER! NOW YOU'D BETTER COME ALONG WITH ME! ...AND REMEMBER, ANYTHING YOU SAY MAY BE USED AGAINST YOU!



COME TO THINK OF IT, YOU HAVEN'T SAID **ANYTHING!** YOU... HEY! WHAT'S THE **MATTER** WITH ME...?



UH! SUDDENLY I FEEL SO **WEAK**... CAN HARDLY STAND.. IT'S... A **TRAP**... I...



... MUST CALL .. THE...



HA! THAT DID IT! NOW, IF I CAN KEEP HIM IN MY POWER LONG ENOUGH, I'LL MAKE HIM MY SLAVE...

WHAT-? YOU MEAN THAT'S WHY YOU WENT TO ALL THIS TROUBLE?



WHAT'S IT TO YOU? I'M NOT PAYING YOU TO SHUT YOUR MOUTH OFF, YOU APE!

OH, YEAH? WELL, LET ME WISE YOU UP, SISTER... YOU AIN'T THE ONLY ONE WHO'S PAYING US!



WE'RE JUST WORKING FOR YOU FOR LAUGHS. EVERY ONE OF US IS A FULL-FLEDGED MEMBER OF SPIDER, AND WE WERE PLAYING ALONG WITH YOU UNTIL YOU TRAPPED THIS BIG BLUE BOY SCOUT!



USE YOUR IMAGINATION, BABY!

WAIT! CAN'T WE MAKE A DEAL? I...

STAY HERE AND MAKE SURE SHE DOESN'T TRY TO STOP US, RUFUS!

OH, DYNAMO... I DIDN'T MEAN YOU TO FALL INTO THE CLUTCHES OF SPIDER...



WE'RE ALONE! NOW.. WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT THAT DYNAMO GUY, ANYWAY? I BET YOU'D GET TO LIKE ME IF YOU GOT TO KNOW ME..

UGH! BLIZZ OFF, YOU CREEP!



AW, C'MON... JUST ONE LITTLE KISS, 'HUH?'

WELL, ALL RIGHT... CLOSE YOUR EYES...



MEANWHILE, AS LEN BROWN  
IS TRANSFORTED TO SPIDER  
CENTRAL...







AT THAT MOMENT...





LOOKS LIKE WE'VE WON, RUSTY...

THE BELT... SOMEHOW IT'S WORKING AGAINST ME... IF ONLY I CAN...



...IT TAKES **EVERY BIT** OF STRENGTH I CAN MUSTER TO **MOVE MY HAND**... FUNNY, THIS IS THE FIRST TIME...

**CLICK!**



...THAT I GET **STRONGER** BY TURNING THE BELT **OFF!** UH! I'M SO TIRED... BUT AT LEAST I'VE GOT MY NORMAL STRENGTH BACK!

**BOSS! LOOK OUT!**



NICE TRY, PAL, BUT YOU'RE TOO LATE!



TOO MANY OF 'EM...

**RUSTY! GET RID OF THAT BLASTED ROBOT!**



WHAT TO DO... ALL MY PLANS... ALL MY WORK...

**RUSTY! HURRY!** I CAN'T HOLD 'EM MUCH LONGER!



I'LL HAVE TO DO IT! SORRY, OLD GIRL... GOT TO SMASH YOUR MECHANISM...

OKAY, DYNAMO—YOU CAN TURN THE BELT ON AGAIN!

**POW! POW!**

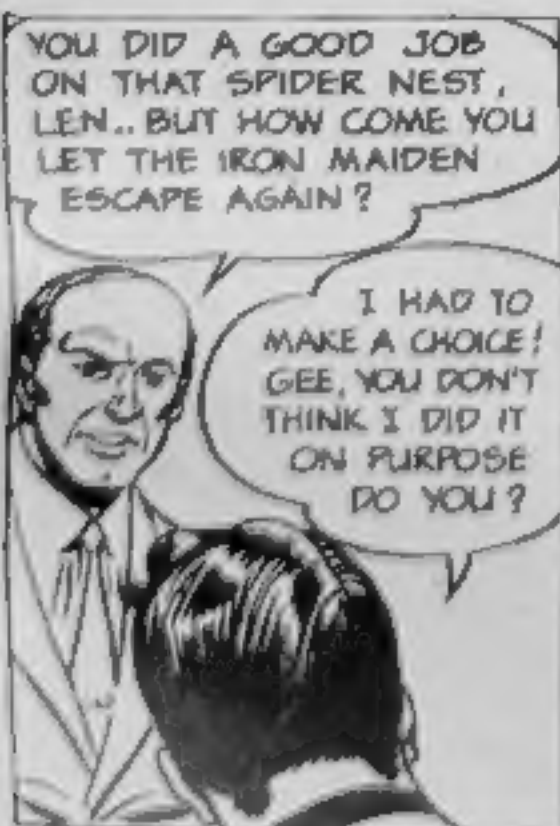


THANKS! I'LL TRY!

**STOP HIM! DON'T LET HIM TURN ON THAT...**









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AVAILABLE MONTHLY

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**SUSPENSE**

★

**SINISTER TALES**

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**CREEPY WORLDS**

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**SECRETS OF THE UNKNOWN**

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**UNCANNY TALES**

★

**ASTOUNDING STORIES**

★

**OUT OF THIS WORLD**

★

**WEIRD PLANETS**

PLACE YOUR ORDER NOW